

Today



It takes one
to tango

ARTS Page 10

The fur North

PEOPLE Page 11

Monday

FRANKLY CALLAGHAN
It might be possible for a man holding high office to be completely honest, said James Callaghan, but it might not be wise. "I suppose this is going to sound frightfully hypocritical, but I learned towards being honest." The former Prime Minister talks to Terry Coleman in the first of a two-part interview.

Tuesday

ASSET STRIPPING
Now you can get a job as a stripper through the Jobcentre. Guardian Women goes back to the North-east to find that, after the fuss about the play *Strippers* in the West End, the dressing housewives are drawing better business than ever before.

Wednesday

HOT FOOT IN FASHION
They call it the coal stroll. All it takes to become a firewalker is the right frame of mind. Society Tomorrow considers America's latest pastime.

News in Brief

Drug user amnesty

DRUG users in Dorset were offered an amnesty if they informed on pushers. Page 5

Retirement call
MERSEYSIDE police committee wants the Home Secretary to approve the enforced retirement of Mr Kenneth Bedford, the chief constable. Page 3

Moscow's church
THE foundation stones have been laid in Moscow for the first building of a Russian orthodox church since the revolution. Page 6

'Private' Chatham
THE Government wants the private sector to finance the development of the former naval dockyard at Chatham on the Medway. Page 18

Royal break-in
A DRUNKEN guardsman who broke into Clarence House, the home of the Queen Mother, was jailed for three years. Page 2

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The weather

DRY with sunny periods. Details, back page.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE	100p
Austria	25p
Belgium	40p
Denmark	9.00p
France	8.00p
Germany	2.50p
Greece	300p
Ireland	2.00p
Italy	1.00p
Netherlands	1.00p
Spain	1.00p
Switzerland	3.00p

Belgium tells all British clubs to stay away • Relatives see victims

FA ban opens campaign to end violence

The Football Association secretary, Mr Ted Croker, emerged from a meeting at 10 Downing Street yesterday to announce a 12-month voluntary ban on English clubs playing in European football competitions.

The decision, pre-empting an expected UEFA ruling later this month, was welcomed by the Prime Minister, although she made it clear that she wants even more extensive measures taken to prevent any recurrence of the sort of violence that led to Wednesday night's deaths in Brussels.

The Belgian government announced a blanket ban on all British clubs, professional and amateur, playing in the country.

Its prime minister, Mr Wilfried Martens, said he expected the ban to be followed by even crowd control and safety measures from the British and from UEFA.

Liverpool Football Club announced its own self-imposed ban on European

matches before the FA decision was announced. The FA decision did not, however, please the Football League. Its spokesman, Mr Andy Williamson, said: "It is astonishing that this decision has been taken without consultation with the league. It has obviously broken our agreement with the FA."

Mrs Thatcher said that she would be seeking all-party support for speedy legislation to extend the Scottish ban on alcohol at matches to all British clubs. She also indicated that she would like a ban for longer than a year on European matches and would consider other crowd control measures, including a total ban on away supporters, home club membership cards, and the use of better stadiums.

In Rome, the Italian government did not exempt the Belgians from blame. Relatives of the Italian dead and injured were flown into Belgium yesterday and in Liverpool a requiem mass was held for the 38 dead.

Letters, page 12; Ban born in the seventies, page 13; Italian PM's attack and Belgian ban, back page; Stiff penalties for Chinese hooligans, page 7.

Year's exile 'not enough' as PM seeks new laws

By James Naughtie, Chief Political Correspondent

The FA decision to withdraw from UEFA competitions next season was warmly welcomed by the Prime Minister yesterday but she made no secret of her view that a one-year moratorium would not be enough.

She said that the decision was a "first step" but that it was not enough to prevent the violence that has been a feature of football in recent years.

It is evident with the promise of speedy legislation extending to all British grounds the strict control over alcohol already operating in Scotland, and pledges of further measures to be taken in the season of parliament, that the Government is determined to embark on a long-term programme designed to curb hooliganism.

What is more, Mrs Thatcher's personal commitment has now been made so clearly that she is unlikely to go back on her view that the European ban should last as long as is necessary, and almost certainly for more than one year.

Healed it had been inevitable after Wednesday's riot in

Mr Millichip said: "I found it the most difficult decision that I have ever had to make." Mr Croker said they were not yet thinking beyond next season. The priority had been to get the clubs out of Europe for five years.

Mr Thatcher said that she was confident that the decision would be understood and co-operated with on the part of all our people.

She went on to praise new legislation already in force in Scotland, and said she expected stiff sentences for football hooligans found guilty in the courts. She said she was "very grateful" for a recent harsh sentence at Cambridge, where an offender was jailed for five years.

There was some confusion during the day about remarks made at a press conference in Vienna by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, after she had said government policies

Anger and regret from clubs

By David Lacey, Patrick Barclay and Sarah Beeley

The Football League and some of the clubs involved greeted the Football Association's decision to ban English teams from European next season with anger, amusement and regret last night.

The strongest reactions came from the Football League which said that it had not been consulted and from Sir Arthur South, the chairman of Norwich City, who qualified for a European tournament for the first time by winning the Milk Cup. He said that the decision was too silly for words.

A league spokesman, Mr Andy Williamson, said: "It is astonishing that this decision has been taken without consultation with the league. It has obviously broken our agreement with the FA."

"They have acted in a highly emotional atmosphere which is not conducive to the making of a rational decision."

The money we will lose is not important. We shall make a small profit this year as we have done for the last six or seven years. It's the impact this will have on the people of Norwich that saddens me. For the first time in our history we have had the chance of playing in Europe and now we have been denied that chance.

He accused Mrs Thatcher and the FA of not understanding the problem. "We are in Europe because we won the finest family cup final ever played at Wembley."

"Now we have suffered because a number of hideous people have gone through deliberately to cause trouble. They are the winners. The hooligans have won. They must be laughing their heads off now," he said.

The Southampton chairman, Mr Alan Woodford, said that the ban was inevitable. "We accept the decision. Something had to be done, and we have."

Dallas twist leaves Thames TV at a loss

By Dennis Barker

Face-saving moves by Thames TV to show the US soap opera *Dallas*, which it scooped from the BBC earlier this year, back to the corporation are being frustrated by the American distributors.

Worldvision, has now said it would rather *Dallas* did not appear in Britain than deal with the BBC.

Thames, the richest of the ITV stations, broke a so-called "gentleman's agreement" that running serials should not be poached and agreed to pay \$250,000 an episode when the BBC thought it was still negotiating an offer of £25,000.

stuck to its deal with Worldvision, IBA threats to its franchise have forced it to seek to get rid of the noxious *JR* and friends.

Thames's legal adviser said its deal was binding and Worldvision refused to back down from the contract. Thames then asked Worldvision if it could assign *Dallas* to the BBC, perhaps making up the cash difference between Worldvision's price and what the BBC was prepared to pay.

But Worldvision executives have let it be known that they are so affronted by the BBC and its style of negotiating that they would rather *Dallas* was not screened in Britain than see it on BBC.

Sports writers brief Thatcher on riot

By Charles Burgess

MRS THATCHER yesterday called to Downing Street seven sports journalists who had witnessed the Brussels tragedy and made it clear that she was considering measures which would irreversibly change British soccer to rid it of violence.

Among the plans she outlined to us were a total ban on away supporters, the introduction of home club membership cards on which admittance would depend, a ban on alcohol in grounds and the use of better stadia by more than one club, perhaps on a morning and afternoon basis.

In the second floor white drawing room overlooking Horse Guards Parade Mrs Thatcher asked for our accounts of events and for ideas on how to stop similar incidents happening again. Her sports minister, Mr Neil Macfarlane, was also present.

She listened attentively and proposed her own ideas. One of her first questions: "Do we let the game die, or do we have a go at saving it?"

She was surprised when told of the speed at which events happened in the Heysel Stadium. She was told that since that a tragedy had been inevitable at some stage given the violence in many British footballing cities every Saturday, when only police action prevented major outbreaks of disorder and actions of fans abroad.

She said that it was an awful state of affairs when two people supporting different clubs could not be allowed to stand together. The violence in society had to be put out so that the rest could survive. There were two solutions — prevention and containment. She wanted the latter.

She said it was time to mobilise "the good and decent citizens of our society" to point the finger at offenders. These violent people must be isolated from our society, she said.

The Prime Minister said that the drink law in force in Scotland would be introduced in England. This bans the sale of alcohol within 100 yards of a football ground and makes it an offence to carry alcohol on any transport heading for a ground.

She was enthusiastic about an idea put forward that all cheap travel to major footballing cities in Britain on match days should be banned and that charter flights to places abroad where British clubs were to play again in Europe or the international side were to play in and around the date.

At one stage Mrs Thatcher tentatively suggested that perhaps all games could be played behind closed doors and that the clubs could survive on the money from television, the pools companies and advertising. She dismissed the idea when it was pointed out that there would be little point in playing the game in these circumstances.

She bracketed the football violence with two other types in the country, that on the picket lines and in Northern Ireland. She said that the violence in the young was "a disease of a prosperous society".

She said that the actions that were going to have to be taken would have been unacceptable until recently but that now they would be accepted by decent people as being necessary.

Mrs Thatcher shook her



CHEER LEADER: A Greek supporter of the New Democratic Party at an Athens rally at the end of the general election campaign. Picture by Don McPhee; Report, page 6 and picture spread, page 17

Opposition parties go on attack as jobless figures rise by 3,400

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

Unemployment "rose" again in May by 3,400 to 2.2 million, the seasonally adjusted peak of 3,179,500, equal to 13.1 per cent of the workforce, Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, disclosed yesterday.

Opposition parties immediately attacked the Government's unrelenting failure to curb the unemployment problem. May is a month when the number out of work is traditionally expected to fall.

The headline number of unemployed did dip last month, but nearly 32,000 people to 3,240,947, before the seasonally adjusted peak was taken into account but the fall was far smaller than ministers had anticipated.

Labour's employment spokesman, John Prescott, claimed that the Government should adjust its priorities and show as much urgency in cutting the unemployment level

as in tackling the problem of soccer violence.

The SDP economic spokesman, Mr Ian Wigglesworth, labelled the jobless figures as a "black message" for the unemployed.

Trade union leaders weighed in with equally harsh criticism. "The reality is that unemployment has not fallen this month as it did in May last year," the TUC economic committee chairman, Mr David Bassett, said. "The even starker truth is that the trend is still upward."

Mr King argued that the May figures represented a substantial improvement on the previous month's figures which showed a 28,000 rise in the number out of work, and supposed his claims that the April total had been erratic. He admitted: "While this month's figures are better, they are still not good enough to achieve the reduction in unemployment that we all want to see. The underlying trend is

still upwards and that is what must be reversed."

Measures introduced in the March budget would eventually help to reduce unemployment later in the year, he added.

His optimism was not echoed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development which forecast yesterday that there would be no fall in the number of the UK jobless for at least 18 months. The only encouraging feature of yesterday's figures was that the number of people on the unemployed register who found jobs during May rose sharply to a total of 338,300, after a substantial fall in April.

Northern Ireland remains the blackspot, despite a marginal fall in the number out of work last month, with 20.7 per cent of the workforce on the dole on a seasonally adjusted basis.

There were jumps in the levels in Scotland, Wales and the West Midlands.

Joseph adamant



SIR Keith Joseph (above), the Education Secretary, declared yesterday that there would be no new pay offer to the teachers. "They have been offered a bargain opportunity to negotiate provided they deliver in return," he said. Sir Keith also criticised local authorities

Details, back page

BANGLADESH

This time we
MUST
help quickly

Uncounted thousands dead, hundreds of thousands homeless and 1/2 million acres of rice and jute destroyed.

In the wake of the cyclone, tidal wave and floods will come starvation and disease — unless we respond quickly and generously to their cry for help.

This is not the first time Bangladesh has experienced tragedy on a horrifying scale. In 1971, in their hour of crisis, the help arrived too late.

PLEASE DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN.

World Vision's experienced teams in Bangladesh can act immediately. Thousands more will die unless fresh water, food and medical supplies reach them within days. We can ensure that help reaches them in time — but only with your help.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

Peter Searle, World Vision of Britain, EO Box 123, Northampton.

Please use my donation to save lives in Bangladesh.

I enclose £

Name

Address

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EOU 1

Break-in soldier gaoled for 3 years

A GRENADIER guardsman who wanted to break into the Queen Mother's home, Clarence House, entered an adjoining building and started fires.

Stephen Vallentine, aged 22, of Fulham, London, was gaoled for three years yesterday after admitting a charge of arson.

It was stated at Southwark Crown Court that Vallentine, who was stationed at Windsor Palace, went on an "extended drinking binge" after an argument with a friend and broke into Clarence House in the Mall at 5 am on March 29.

Using his special knowledge of the palace, which he had once guarded, Vallentine roamed the grounds. "The thought occurred to him to test the security of Clarence House. He climbed over a wall into the garden and found himself in the grounds of Marlborough House, the Commonwealth secretariat," said Mr David Medhurst, prosecuting.

Inside, he set light to piles of correspondence. "While the fire brigades were putting out the fires in some rooms, Vallentine was starting fires in others," said counsel.

Mr James Dawson, defending, said: "Just before this offence he had an argument with a friend which triggered this drinking binge. He had recently discovered he had homosexual tendencies and was finding the army extremely stressful. He was constantly being ribbed by his colleagues about this and didn't want to return to the army."

He said: "Vallentine was absent without leave from his post at Windsor Castle, where he should have been guarding the royal family. He has a history of heavy drinking. While in the army he was sent on two detoxification courses and stopped drinking. He started again through the influence of colleagues in the army who spiked his drinks at parties."

Mr Dawson said that Vallentine had sought help from senior officers about his homosexual tendencies but had received none. Passing sentence, Judge Kenneth Cooke said: "Here is a man whose duties are to guard the royal palaces, and here he is setting fires to them. If this man wanted to get out of the army he could have got out in a quite different way. He is an inadequate personality."

Ministers speak up for present policies

By James Naughtie

Two senior ministers last night intensified the Government's campaign against its internal critics with boasts about its achievements and warnings about the dangers of changing course on economic strategy.

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, claimed that present economic recovery had gathered momentum only because Mrs Thatcher and her ministers had refused to change their policies. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, used most of a speech in Wales to emphasise his belief that the Government should stand about its success in reducing state control over individuals' lives.

Mr Brittan told a meeting of Yorkshire Tory agents that there were times when governments should change direction, but the present moment was not one of them. "Too often

Two denied right to represent the electors, party claims

Sinn Fein goes to court over ban on councillors

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Sinn Fein is to go to the High Court in Belfast on Monday to seek a ban on a local authority meeting which excludes two of its councillors.

The party will also seek leave to bring legal action against the Unionist-controlled Craigavon district council which is attempting to freeze out the Sinn Fein members.

Official Unionists and Democratic Unionists in Craigavon have formed an alliance and hope to exclude the Republicans from the authority by setting up a special committee—without Sinn Fein presence—to transact virtually all council business.

The first meeting of that committee is due on Monday but Sinn Fein officials who received legal advice yesterday are confident of getting it postponed, on the orders of the court.

They are also confident that they can have the Unionist tactics—which included the election via the police of the Sinn Fein for the authority's first meeting earlier this week—declared illegal.

A Sinn Fein spokeswoman said last night that the legal moves were being made so as to ensure that the two councillors—Mr Brendan Curran and Mr Brian McCann—can have the right to represent the people who voted for them.

Bid by BBC

The BBC has lodged a detailed planning application with Edinburgh District Council for a £48 million broadcasting centre covering 50,000 square feet. The new building would replace the existing Broadcasting House in Queen Street, which the BBC has occupied since 1930.

Disabled death

A disabled 18-year-old girl died early yesterday in a fire at her home in Southport, Merseyside. Her 46-year-old mother and two other children aged 15 and 12 escaped, but the girl, who was confined to a wheelchair, was trapped in her bedroom.

Cannabis trial out in the open

TWO-THIRDS of a ton of cannabis was examined outside the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday during a drugs smuggling trial.

Tourists were held back as the judge, Lord Hunter, the jury of 15, the eight accused in handcuffs, and their 15 advocates in gowns and wigs trooped out into the sunshine.

A pungent aroma arose as Customs officers unloaded 75 bulky polythene bags from a van. Other Customs men stood watchfully by as the bags were examined by defence counsel, jurors, and a witness.

The eight accused deny smuggling cannabis into Britain on board a motor vessel, the St Just, at the Isle of Seil, near Oban, on February 3. All eight also deny an alternative charge of being concerned in smuggling cannabis.

The accused are Roderick MacNeil, of Clachan, Isle of Seil; Boyd Keen, of North Connell, Argyll; Terence Kelly and Alan, of Glasgow; fixed abode; Nicholas Kelley, of the Wirral, Cheshire; and David Noon, Michael Kelly, and Christopher Socrates, all of Liverpool.

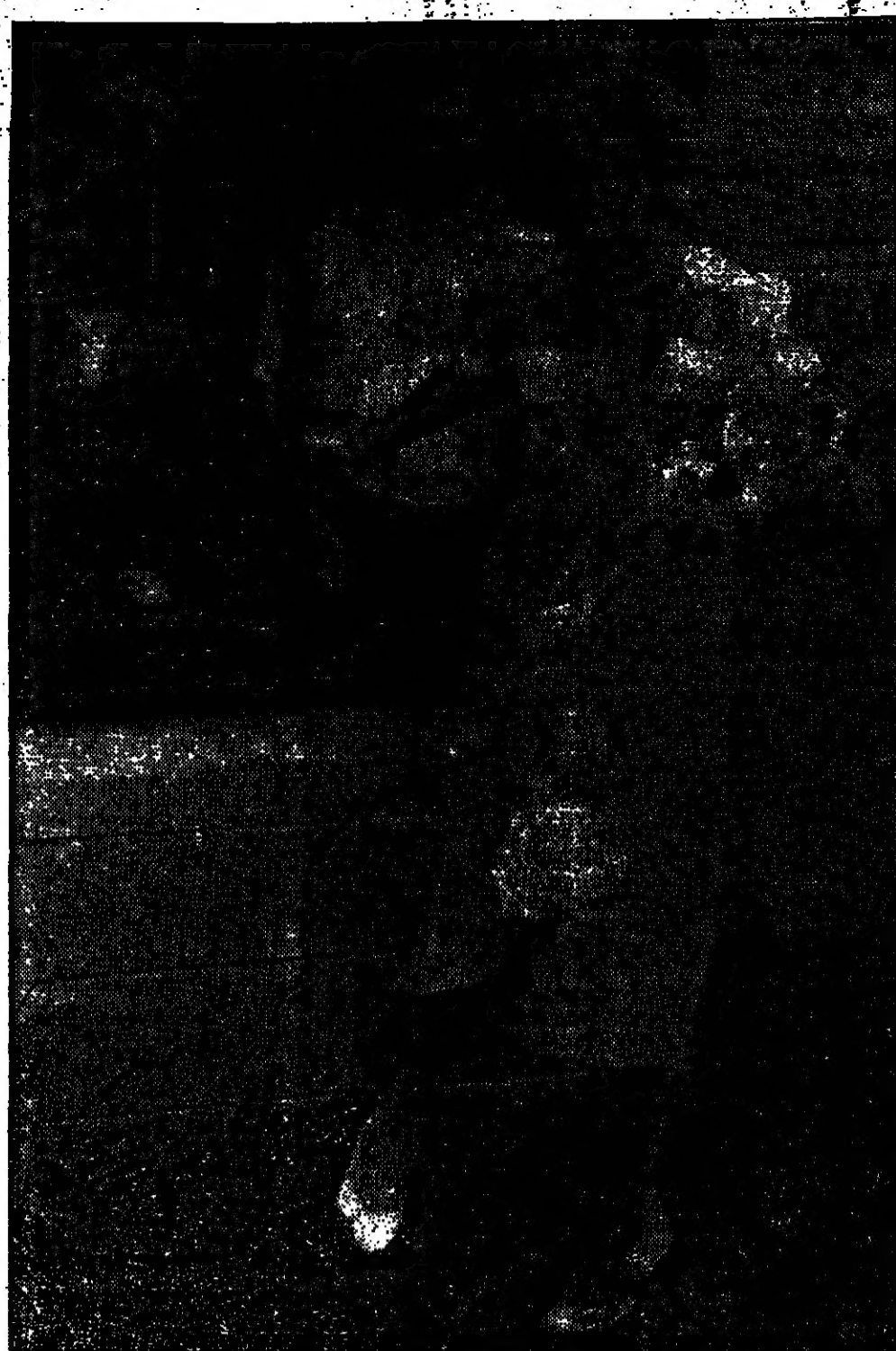
The cannabis was examined outside because the prosecution told the judge that there would be a health hazard if it were taken into court.

The court moved outside twice to examine the cannabis and convened twice more in the open air to examine a high speed inflatable rubber dinghy with a powerful engine, which boat builder, Mr Bruce Bennett, and a bystander, Mr William Jenkin, identified as one they had seen at the slipway, at St Anthony, near Lizard Point, Cornwall, last November.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Ties severed

Panama City: Panama has severed all diplomatic ties with South Africa because of apartheid. Full diplomatic relations were suspended seven years ago, but the two countries maintained low-key, consular relations — AP.



THE Princess of Wales tiptoes through the garden of Mr Ian Forbes after talking to him during a visit to Twerton on Avon, Bath yesterday. The princess, patron of the National Rubella Council, was visiting the £2.5 million, Proulewood Centre run by the National Institute for the deaf

Steel claims Tory and Labour allies for post-election pact

By James Naughtie

Chief Political Correspondent, Government ministers and former members of the last Labour government were among those willing to talk informally about coalition after the next general election, Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said last night.

Mr Steel said there had been no formal discussions but noted that "of course politicians are human beings... and we do meet from time to time and we talk from time to time, but not in any conspiratorial way."

He said, however, that backbenchers on both sides, members of the Government, former ministers and "people who were associated with me at the time of the Lib/Lab pact" had been willing to discuss post-election arrangements.

Asked by Mr Peter Jay, his interviewer, if there was a possibility of Liberal MPs doing a deal with another party without the participation of Dr Owen, he said: "I cannot see any circumstances in which it



Mr David Steel

would happen." He said he was unwilling to use the word "never" in politics, but he said any split in the Alliance would be a betrayal of the campaign on which it had fought an election.

However, it appeared that Mr Steel was making clear publicly what he has been saying privately in the Alliance for

some time — that there was always a danger that if Dr Owen antagonised Liberals on key issues a substantial group could threaten a breakaway.

As Mr Steel's remarks were being broadcast on A Week in Politics on Channel 4, Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, who was in the cabinet which agreed to the Lib/Lab pact was launching a strong attack on Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party leader.

Mr Hattersley said that he would not contemplate a post-election power-sharing arrangement because it negated democracy.

He said the prospect of the SDP/Liberal Alliance having a decisive influence on determining the next government was negligible, but he added: "Dr Owen fantasised when he talks of negotiating with major parties."

"To negotiate a new programme after polling day is to negotiate away policies and promises. Indeed, it is to go into the election expecting to abandon the policies on which it is fought."

Shop union wins second victory under 1984 act

By Peter Hetherington, Northern Labour Correspondent

Eight thousand workers employed by the mail order giant Great Universal Stores in the Manchester area yesterday voted overwhelmingly for an overtime ban and one-day strike in protest at the company's latest pay offer.

The two-to-one vote represents another success for the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (USDAW), which represents the employees, under the 1984 Trade Union Act. This requires ballots before industrial action is taken.

In the current vote, the union's national negotiating committee heard yesterday that 4,524 GUS workers had voted for industrial action with

3,622 against following the breakdown of pay talks. The company had offered an increase of 25 bringing the weekly pay of the lowest grade clerical worker to £87. The union is pressing for a £100 minimum and will meet the company again on Monday in an attempt to reach a settlement.

The GUS vote came as the Department of Employment revealed that in the first four months of this year, strikes notified to the department — 239 compared with 510 in the corresponding period of 1984 — representing the lowest level for this period since 1936. The Government believes the pre-strike ballot provision of the 1984 Act has made a major contribution to the reduction of strikes.

NEWS IN BRIEF

6.3 pc rise accepted

BRITAIN'S 86,000 power manual workers have accepted a 6.3 per cent pay offer by a 1,804 majority. The unions said that those in favour amounted to 51.39 per cent of the 70,000 votes cast.

The offer was said by some workers to include a 1 per cent loyalty bonus for working during the miners' strike.

Cricketers left £2,000 in will

TWO Yorkshire cricketers, Geoff Boycott and David Bairstow, have been left £2,000 each by a woman who died in March.

The Sussex captain, John Barclay, also benefits under the will of Miss Anne Wright, of Seaford Road, Hove, Sussex. He receives the balance of her account with a building society.

Second man on murder charge

A SECOND man appeared before magistrates in Nottingham yesterday accused of murdering Wayne Keeton, aged 19, whose body was found on Easter Sunday in the river Leen near his home in Nottingham.

Philip Atherton, aged 21, who was arrested on Easter Monday has already been charged with murder and yesterday Mark Stephen Clarry, aged 19, was also charged with the boy's murder.

Police draw line to keep peace at Stonehenge

Martin Wainwright finds police ready to prevent the annual festival taking place at the ancient monument

POLICE in the West Country, especially those stationed near to ley lines and other mystic features, were put on the alert yesterday as word of the festival-goers was turned away from Stonehenge.

A loose but effective cordon was stung round Wiltshire to prevent the proposed 12th annual Stonehenge festival from setting anywhere near the most important ancient monument in the country.

Police stopped a 20-vehicle convoy close to the county border on the Oxford to Swindon road, and warned passengers that a breach of the peace might occur if they stopped near Stonehenge. The convoy changed direction and drove to near Cirencester.

Wiltshire police said that members of the convoy would not have been arrested if they had decided to proceed — the threat made by Kent police when miners attempted to leave the county to picket elsewhere during the strike. But the travellers were told that they would be wasting time and petrol if they tried to get close to Stonehenge.

Later in the day police said that several individuals had been seen in the Avebury area, several miles from Stonehenge. They had been told that the festival had been cancelled, and had been given similar warnings about a breach of the peace.

The scene at the ring of stones, which has been supplemented temporarily by a ring of "rasat" willows, was the subject of a tour by Mr Jim Moseham, of the National Trust, said that tourists were buying postcards and he was twiddling his thumbs.

The trust, which owns land round the site, and English Heritage, which administers the monument, are keen to restore traditional solstice ceremonies at Stonehenge — notably the Druids gathering — which have been banned this year because of precautions against the festival.

Last year, some 30,000 people set up a tent city in a National Trust field near Stonehenge, with three main thoroughfares called "Easy Street", "Sleazy Street" and "Suburbia" and an economy based on a notional £20-a-week dole.

Although the organisation was impressive, the authorities were concerned about drug abuse and damage to minor archaeological sites.

The trust has kept in touch with groups involved with the festival, which last year ranged from the Silver Machine Space Travelers to the St John's Ambulance Brigade.

More than 150,000 stickers urging people to travel to Stonehenge have been printed to counter a "keep away" campaign by the trust and English Heritage.

Rate-cap deadline ignored by councils

By Geoff Andrews, Local Government Correspondent

Three London councils out of the original six which were threatening confrontation with the Government over rate-capping failed to meet the deadline for a meeting of the Home Office yesterday morning of imminent legal action from the metropolitan district auditor, Mr Brian Skinner.

Ignoring his end-of-the-month deadline, the London boroughs of Camden, Lambeth, and Greenwich are still without a rate for the year which began almost two months ago.

With only hours to go, Islington was meeting last night and planning to set a legal rate, while Southwark's another long-term rebel managed to fix a rate — described as providing a "spending budget" — on Thursday night.

Meanwhile Liverpool, which is not rate-capped but has exploited its special position, which results from last year's rate being delayed, yesterday decided what was described as a final deadline for its district auditor, Mr Thomas McMahon.

It appeared possible yesterday that Liverpool will eventually set a rate at a meeting next week and Camden and Lambeth have meetings planned within the next few days. The position of Greenwich, which is seeking a judicial review of the Government ruling on rate-capping, is unclear, but the auditor feels strongly that the audit case is not a defence against his ultimatum.

It remains to be seen whether any of the four councils will decide to take on the Government in a confrontation similar to that which led to Clay Cross councillors being sacked and barred from office in 1973, and 30 councillors from Poplar, in east London, going to prison in the twenties. Equally, it is questionable whether the Government has any stomach for the fight that would ensue and the martyrs that would be made.

With some councils already borrowing £100,000 to keep their services going, it would not be difficult to establish the bare facts of a case against any of the authorities.

The two London councils who have squeezed in before the deadline now face the problem of explaining their reasons to the hardliners who still hold out. Southwark yesterday described its budget, which will raise about 25 million less than needed for its expenditure, as a "spending budget" for jobs and services, and one that "drove" a coach and horses through the Government's intentions on rate-capping.

Officials have told councillors that creative accounting and rate arrears will avoid any action over the deficit built into the budget.

Islington managed its rate with the help of up to £15 million of aid from the Greater London Council from its "stress borough" funds, after extensive consultations with Labour Party members in each of the 20 wards in the borough.

The deal will allow for moderate growth rather than the cuts which had been threatened.

Warders threaten to keep cells locked

By Aileen Ballantyne

Prison officers at one of the most overcrowded jails in the country, yesterday threatened to keep over 200 untried prisoners locked in their cells and exercise yards for feeding and exercise unless the Home Office agrees to a series of proposals for minimum staffing levels.

Bedford jail, where two thirds of the inmates are on remand, has 329 prisoners, but was designed to hold 177.

Mr Ken Tysoe, chairman of Bedford Prison Officers' Association, said that in many cases three inmates were having to share single cells, measuring eight by 12 feet without integral lavatories.

He claimed that overtime and manning cutbacks being proposed by the Home Office would make it impossible to carry out essential basic tasks in the jail, and would be unsafe for prison officers, prisoners and the public.

Last week the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, rejected a hostile reception when he told the POA annual conference that he would have to cut back on prison officers' overtime in order to justify increased spending on prison buildings.

The Home Office has just introduced a system of budgetary control on the annual prison budget of £600 million, which means that all 150 jails in England and Wales will have to live strictly within set budgets.

Three quarters of the annual budget for prisons is made up of staff costs.

According to Mr Tysoe, attempts are being made to save £100,000 on overtime costs at Bedford. Manning levels of 39 prison officers supervising 329 inmates at any one time are proposed, he said, compared with the POA's demand for 51 officers.

Without that number, Mr Tysoe added, security would suffer, and it would be impossible to allow remand prisoners their right of one visit a day, compared with the POA's demand for 51 officers.

When prisoners "came fighting out of their cells," Mr Tysoe told the POA conference last week, the Prison Department would "distance themselves from the blood on the landings."

A Home Office spokesman said last night that discussions were continuing between the POA and management.

Toddler killed by cosmetic

The Aylesbury coroner, Mr Rodney Corner, yesterday urged cosmetic firms to put clear warnings on their products after a 19-month-old girl was burnt to death when her mother's make-up caught fire. Sarah, Cornwall, and her sister, Stephanie, three, had been playing with a cigarette lighter and a bottle of skin taster at their home at Ambrosden, Oxfordshire. Sarah suffered severe burns, and died two days later in hospital.

Chairman of Scots CBI

OBITUARY

THE chairman of the Confederation of British Industry in Scotland, Mr John Risk, died yesterday in hospital in Glasgow after a long illness, aged 59.

Mr Risk was secretary of Coats Patons, PLC, a director of J and P Coats, and a for-

mer chairman of the National Council of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce.

He became chairman of the CBI in Scotland in September 1983 after serving as a council member for many years. In June 1984 he was awarded the CBE, at the same time as his brother, Thomas Risk, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, was knighted.

Ultimatum to printers in technology dispute

By Patrick Wintour

The dispute over new technology in the provincial press worsened yesterday when management at the Reading Evening Post threatened to sack 80 National Graphical Association printers on Monday unless they return to normal working by then.

Mr James Brown, managing director of the Thames Valley Newspaper Group, part of the Thomson Regional Newspaper Group, said last night that if the NGA continued the action the remaining 200 staff would be laid off and the future of the newspaper would be jeopardised.

There has already been sporadic industrial action through-out Northcliffe Group newspapers, the provincial arm of Associated Newspapers. Worst

hit has been the Plymouth-based Western Morning News, which has been off the street for nearly a fortnight.

The dispute there had been exacerbated by the decision of management to transfer printing of a freesheet to another firm after its late production as a result of the NGA go-slow. At talks late on Thursday, the transfer of the freesheet and a new technology clause. The clause is believed to cover introduction of direct input technology in the classified advertising department.

At the Reading Evening Post, the NGA was 10 days ago offered a new technology clause which guaranteed no job losses and no reduction in earnings. Mr Brown said that he had asked the NGA to

come forward with an alternative but there had been no response. He added that Thames Valley had lost over £3 million in the past four years.

The paper has already purchased new machinery. If the union does not respond this weekend, management can try to close the paper or set about attempting to produce it without the transferred freesheet.

It has already been shown at the Kent Messenger — where 140 NGA members have been sacked for banning Press Computer Systems (PCS) equipment — that managements can, if necessary, find alternative printers or sufficient numbers of clerical staff to photograph set news copy at rates of around £4 an hour. The NGA has made the Messenger dispute official. PCS is an associ-

ated company of the Wolverhampton Express and Star, where over 100 NGA members were sacked three months ago over the use of direct input technology.

The Messenger and the Express and Star, members of the National Union of Journalists have voted to cross NGA picket lines. Mr Tony Dubbins, NGA general secretary, has written to the NUJ suggesting a joint approach to the Messenger dispute.

NUJ national leaders this week failed to dissuade NUJ members at the Ipswich-based East Anglian Daily Times from agreeing a pact with the NGA that after the introduction of direct input NGA members may be transferred to work at subeditors whilst retaining NGA membership.

Chief constable recommended for the sack

By Tom Sharritt
Merseyside police committee decided yesterday to ask the Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, to remove the chief constable, Mr. Kenneth Oxford, from office.
The committee said that Mr. Oxford's retirement would be "in the interests of the efficiency" of the Merseyside police.
After the meeting Mr. Oxford said there had been a campaign against him.
The committee voted 13-9 in favour of Mr. Oxford's departure.
It has offered Mr. Brittan an opportunity to meet members and receive their representations before he makes up his mind. However, it is unlikely that he will give his consent.
The call for Mr. Oxford's retirement comes after four years in which there have been repeated clashes between him and the Labour majority on the police committee.
The latest dispute arose when he failed to attend a meeting in March and the committee learned that he was attending a conference in Washington.
After hearing his detailed response yesterday, Labour members of the committee voted in favour of seeking Mr. Brittan's approval for retirement.
The Conservatives, Liberals, and Independent members voted against.
Urging the committee to accept Mr. Oxford's explanation, a Conservative Councillor, Sidney Moss, who is a director of Liverpool Football Club, said: "In Brussels I witnessed what could happen with an inadequate and inefficient police force. We have never experienced anything like that and that is in no small measure due to the man in charge of Merseyside police."



A woman is carried to an ambulance and (above) a buckled carriage.

MORE than 100 people were taken to hospital yesterday when the Gatwick-Victoria express slammed into the rear of a slow-moving commuter train outside Battersea Park station, south London, writes Gareth Parry.
The accident happened at 9.55 am, as rush-hour rail traffic into London tailed off. There were about 600 people on board the two trains, neither of which was scheduled to stop at Battersea Park station as they approached Victoria.
One woman sustained a broken leg and had to be cut free from the buffet car of the Gatwick train. Most of the injured received only cuts and bruises. Those needing treatment were taken to St Thomas's Hospital, Lambeth, and St Stephen's, Chelsea.
Seventy firemen, eight pumps and 12 ambulances were at the scene within a few minutes. Rail services were halted for some time as power was switched off to enable emergency teams to reach the trains.
As British Rail opened its inquiry into the accident, a spokesman said that the commuter train was moving at about 5 mph when the express, travelling at around 40 mph, ran into the back of it.

Walker tells Nacods their reason for overtime ban no longer exists


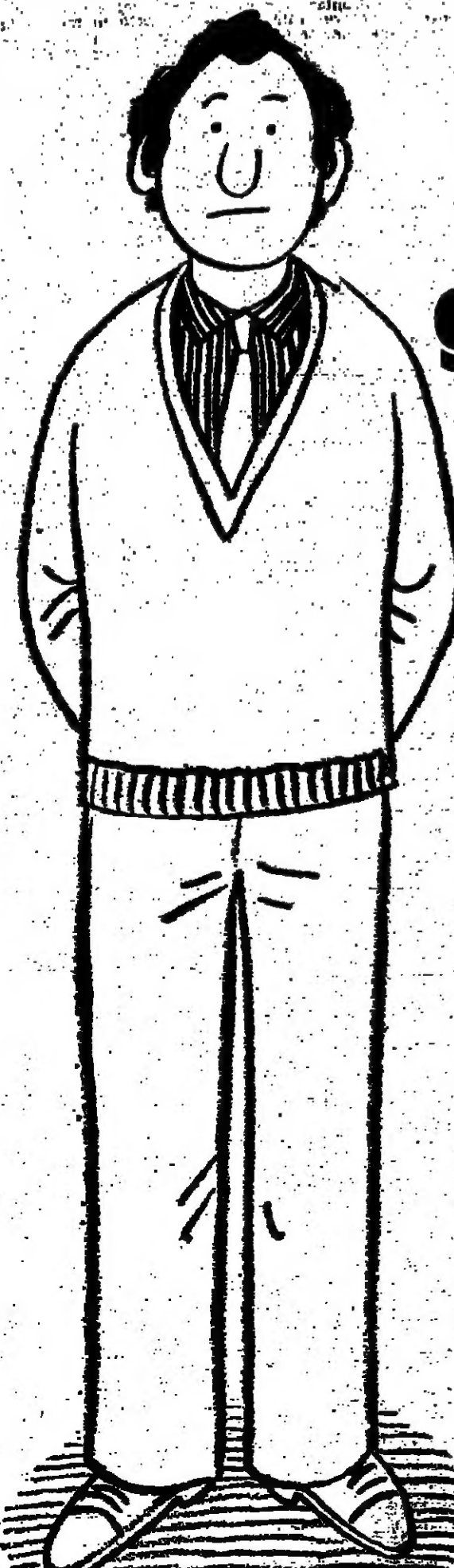
By Patrick Wintour
Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, appealed yesterday to the executive of the pit deputies' union, Nacods, to call off its overtime ban at its emergency meeting on Monday.
In a letter to the union's president, Mr Ken Sampey, Mr Walker said that the National Coal Board had now complied with all the demands initially put by the deputies.
Mr Walker wrote: "You demanded that the NCB statement of March 27 be withdrawn and that the agreement with Nacods that all future pit closures should go through the appropriate procedure should be confirmed. I undertook to convey these views."
Mr Walker added that he understood that at talks on Wednesday this week, the NCB confirmed its withdrawal of the March 27 statement.
"They also confirmed the October agreement reached with Nacods and that the agreed procedures would apply to any future planned closures."
The March 27 statement covered the NCB's suspension of the colliery closure procedure pending the board's review of the state of the pits. The October agreement established the principle of the introduction of an independent advisory review body on pit closures.
The board has broken off talks to establish the new appeals body because of the action by Nacods.
Nacods executive will be under pressure to call a fresh ballot as a result of the NCB assurances, it is thought, that the

Party at odds again on black sections

By James Naughtie, Chief Political Correspondent
Labour's working party on positive discrimination for ethnic minorities is recommending to the national executive that black sections should be established in the party, in a direct challenge to Mr Neil Kinnock, its leader.
But the paper, which will go to the NEC's organisation committee in 10 days, includes a minority report arguing that the party should resist demands for black sections.
The recommendation of the working party on black sections will be opposed by Mr Kinnock, and will almost certainly be defeated in the organisation committee. The NEC as a whole is expected to uphold that decision.
Mr Kinnock has made no secret of his opposition to black sections but he is under pressure to agree to a compromise which would mean setting up a national organisation within the party for black socialists, which could then affiliate to individual constituencies.
Senior party officials believe, however, that such a plan is fraught with difficulties, and it is by no means certain that Mr Kinnock will support it.
The working party's recommendations on Labour's attitude to ethnic minorities — including the appointment of a senior official to deal with the issue — will meet little opposition, but Mr Kinnock appears determined to use his majority on the NEC and its committees to vote down the proposal for black sections in individual constituencies.

Talks invitation to South African minister 'should be withdrawn'

By Susan Tirbutt
An invitation to a South African minister to private talks in Britain next week has angered the Anti-Apartheid Movement.
Mr Gerrit Viljoen, minister for co-operation and development, is to take part in a three-day international conference of politicians, financiers and business people on investment in South Africa.
The Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britain and the United States yesterday called for the invitation to be withdrawn.
It said that Mr Viljoen had been responsible for widespread detentions when he was administrator-general of Namibia, where he had taken no action against the army and police for committing atrocities.
Ms Kate Clarke, the movement's deputy secretary, said that the conference, organised by the Business International group, aimed to help business people to resist social and political changes in South Africa.
An organiser of the conference, which starts at the Hilton Hotel in London on Wednesday, said that the invitation would not be withdrawn.
Mr Viljoen had been asked as one of several speakers whose positions influence business conditions. The conference, costing participants just under £1,000 each without accommodation or travel, had been organised to assess business conditions and prospects in South Africa, he said.
It was being held in private so that those taking part could speak freely. About 60 companies were expected to be represented and about 140 whom a similar conference was held in the US.
Speakers in London will include Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, chief minister of KwaZulu, a black homeland set up by the South African government. Mr Basil Herson, chairman of Barclays National Bank Ltd, and chairman and managing director of Anglovaal Ltd, Mr John Kane-Berman, director of the South African Institute of Race Relations and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office.
The conference is the latest in a series of confidential international talks on South African investment.



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Amnesty for drug users to catch pushers

By Aileen Ballantyne

Dorset police have offered an amnesty to drug users who are prepared to provide information which could lead to the pushers.

The amnesty, believed to be the first of its kind offered by a British police force, is also intended to encourage parents who suspect their teenage children of using hard drugs to seek help and to reveal the identity of the pushers.

The Chief Constable of Dorset, Mr Brian Weight, said that the amnesty would last for one month. If an informant implicated himself or a member of his family in a minor drugs offence no action would be taken, he said.

"I accept that this is an unprecedented course but, such is my determination to combat the problem, I am prepared to use any means at my disposal," said Mr Weight.

The number of hard drug users in Dorset has risen sharply in the past year, and the number of drug pushers arrested has risen by 200 per cent, according to Detective Chief Superintendent Alan Rose, head of Dorset CID. He said that the amnesty was a preventive measure to ensure that the problem did not worsen.

Nationally, the number of newly registered heroin addicts increased this year by 25 per cent and the cocaine seizures by Customs officers have tripled, according to Home Office figures.

In many cases, Mr Rose said, parents were frightened to take action in case their teenage child ended up with a drug conviction.

Dorset police say they have a particular problem with pushers from London and Merseyside. One kilogram of heroin, smuggled in to Britain produces an estimated profit of £25,000, they say.

The force has made a video, to be shown in schools and youth clubs, discouraging young people from taking drugs. Among those in the film are Bobby Robson the England football manager, and rock stars.

Last week, the Prime Minister called on prominent figures to publicise the dangers of drug addiction.

Flu 'cause of hospital deaths

A total of 33 people have died in the geriatric ward of Murrey Royal Hospital, Perth, recently, most during the past month. Many were aged over 80.

A hospital spokesman said that the exact cause was not known but it was believed that influenza might have been responsible.

Aids virus hits 3,000

By our Medical Correspondent

Nearly 3,000 homosexual men in London have probably been infected by the Aids virus, specialists reported yesterday. Antibodies to the virus have been found in one in five homosexual and bisexual men attending the Middlesex Hospital's sexually transmitted disease clinic — a five-fold increase in two years.

Previous estimates are that about 10 per cent of those infected by the virus (HTLV-III) go on to develop Aids.



ON THE MEND: Police Constable George Hammond, aged 48, is tended by nurse Janet Mitchell yesterday at King's Hospital, London, where he is now out of bed, four months after being stabbed in a Dulwich newsagent's shop. PC Hammond has undergone five operations and has been in intensive care. Picture by the London Standard

Poser for fire fund trustees

By Michale Parkin

Trustees of the Bradford football fire disaster fund, which topped £1.65 million yesterday, have provisionally decided against making equal payments to families and victims.

For instance, they see a clear difference between the loss suffered by a widow with five children to bring up and the loss suffered by a retired person.

One way of measuring these differences, they say, would be to apply the principles used by courts in determining the hardship and financial loss suffered in a claim for damages over a road accident or industrial accident.

The chairman of the fund, Mr Roger Suddards, has invited anyone with views on how the fund should be distributed to write to the trustees at Britannia House, Hall Ings, Bradford. Some people have already said that if there is a surplus it should go to the improvement of facilities at the Bradford City ground as a fitting memorial. Others have said that no money should go to the club.

Delight at fellowship for obstetrician accused of malpractice

Top award for suspended doctor

By Andrew Veitch
Medical Correspondent

Mrs Wendy Savage, a consultant obstetrician who has been suspended for alleged malpractice, is to be awarded the highest honour in her field "for advancing the science and practice of obstetrics." She will be made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in a ceremony in London on Wednesday.

The RCOG's ruling council approved the award shortly before Mrs Savage, consultant and senior lecturer at The London Hospital, was suspended by Tower Hamlets health authority pending a hearing into five allegations of professional malpractice.

Her approach to maternity care has brought her into

conflict with her fellow consultants at The London Hospital — low-tech community services based on what women want rather than high-tech hospital treatment.

Mrs Savage's sympathisers include the president of the RCOG, Professor Malcolm Macnaughton, of Glasgow University. The vice-president, Professor Geoffrey Chamberlain, of St George's Hospital, south London, said yesterday that he was delighted at her award.

Details of the five cases which led to Mrs Savage's suspension were disclosed in the doctors' magazine, General Practitioner, yesterday. In two cases the baby died, but in neither, it is reported, was Mrs Savage present during childbirth. Four of the cases in-

volved what her colleagues at The London considered to be delays in performing Caesarians. Only one of the cases led to a complaint by the mother.

A hospital survey has shown that Mrs Savage performs fewer Caesarians than her colleagues at The London, but the death rate among her babies is no higher.

The medical committee in Tower Hamlets has called for the appointment of another woman consultant to safeguard the community maternity service during Mrs Savage's suspension. Sixty-eight local GPs, as well as the National Childbirth Trust, the local community health council, and patients have called for her reinstatement.

● Babies are at risk from the

poverty, depression, and stress of unemployment, the Maternity Alliance said in a report yesterday.

One in three children in Britain are growing up in poverty, To counteract the effects of poverty on babies and pregnant women, it urges the Government to raise maternity grants to £130 a year for all, increase maternity allowances and unemployment benefit, double child benefits, extend the provision of free milk and vitamins, and use supplementary benefit to protect families from poverty.

Born Unequal — Perspectives on Pregnancy and Childbearing in Unemployed Families. Price £2.50 from the Maternity Alliance, 59-61 Camden High Street, London NW1.

Women's magazines 'promote smoking'

By Penny Choriton

The tobacco industry and the publishers of most magazines aimed at young people are breaking voluntary codes by continuing to glamourise cigarette smoking, doctors said in London yesterday.

The British Medical Association commissioned Dr Bobby Jacobson and Dr Amanda Amos to look closely at women's magazines and their policies on tobacco advertising. They found that one third of the 53 magazines surveyed

refused tobacco advertising. But the rest were for the most part in breach of the tobacco industry's voluntary agreement with the Government, which aims to prevent young people being exposed to "hard sell" tobacco advertising.

At least a million non-smokers aged 15 to 24 were being exposed to cigarette advertising in this way, they say.

The report calls for legislation to ban all tobacco advertising and promotion. In the meantime, the Advertising

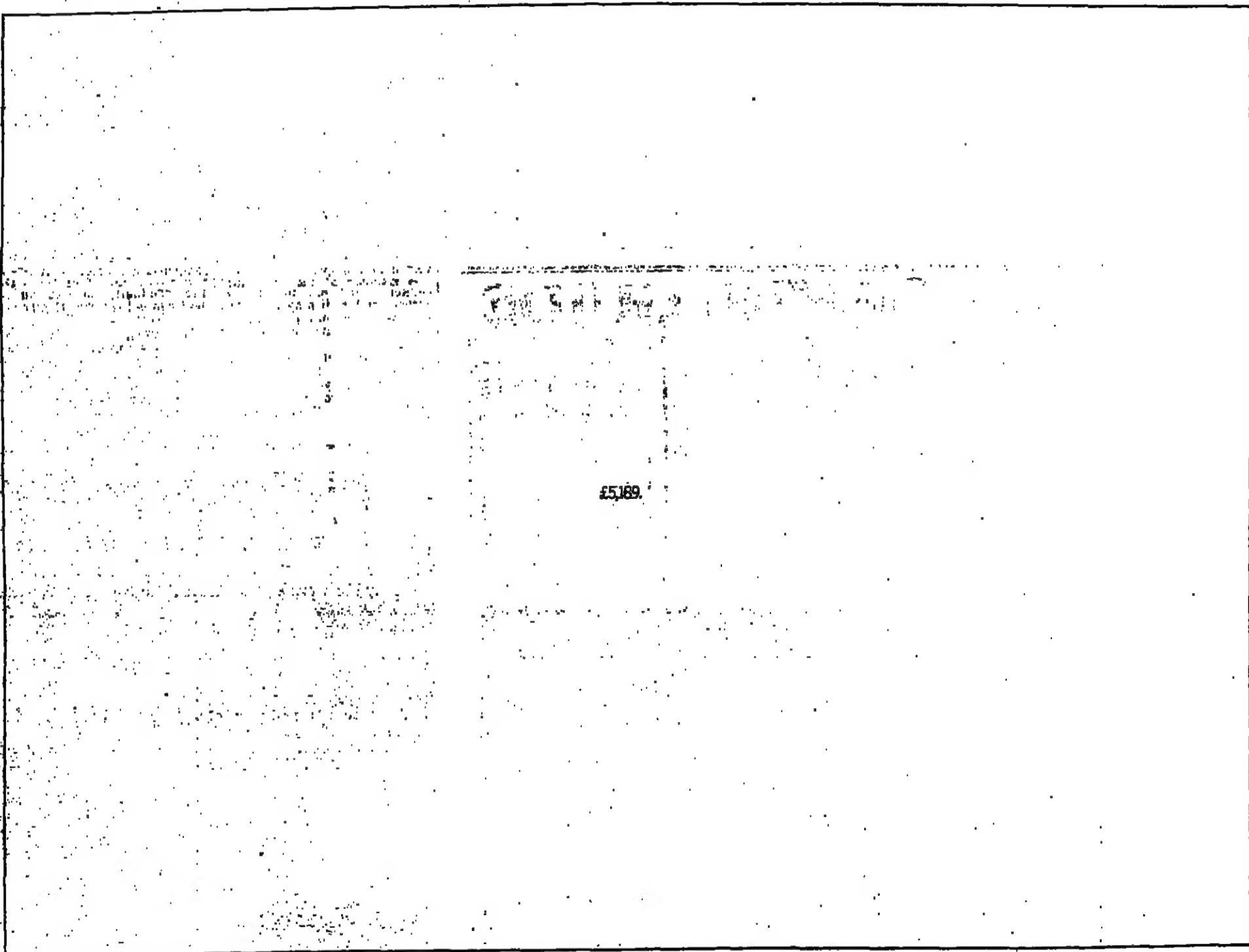
Standards Authority's code of practice should be strengthened so that cigarettes can no longer be advertised in any magazine whose largest readership group is under 25. The tobacco industry should be instructed to cease advertising in youth magazines forthwith.

A spokesman for the Tobacco Advisory Council said: "I cannot accept any accusation that we are outside the Advertising Standards Authority's rules. All cigarette advertising has to be pre-vetted by the ASA and given a

certificate before it can be published."

Mr Peter Thomson, director-general of the ASA, called the report a "characteristic piece of inaccurate BMA politicking." He added: "No advertising has ever appeared where the majority of readers is known to be under 18, or even where 20 per cent of the readers are known to be under 18."

Smoke Gets In Your Eyes: £1 from the BMA, Tavistock House, London WC1.



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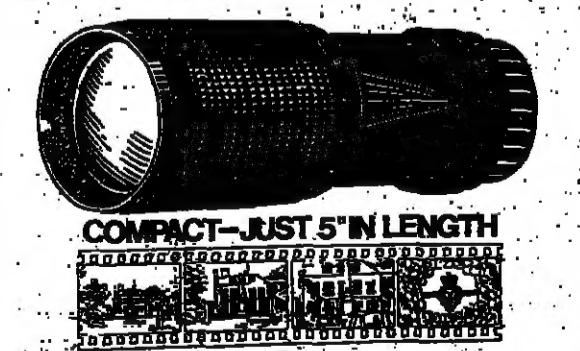
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Former French PM stands aloof from main parties

Barre thrust into race for presidency on poll crest

Paris: The former prime minister, Mr Raymond Barre, has ended months of speculation by announcing that he intends running for President in 1988, but without aligning himself to any of the main political parties.

Mr Barre, who was prime minister for the last five years of Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's presidency, is the first major political figure to announce his intention to run when President François Mitterrand's term ends.

The 61-year-old politician has been consistently heading opinion polls in recent months as the most popular opposition figure, ahead of Mr Giscard and another of his former prime ministers, the Gaullist Mayor of Paris, Mr Jacques Chirac.

But none of the country's other leading politicians, Mr Mitterrand included, has formally announced that they will run for the seven-year presidential term.

Mr Barre chose an interview in yesterday's issue of the centre-right, weekly magazine, L'Express, to launch his candidature.

He told L'Express: "If at the appropriate time I have the feeling that I can benefit from the deep confidence of a large part of the French people, who would be ready to support me in that difficult task, then I would be a candidate, but separate from any party."

But I would not be a candidate if I did not think those conditions had been fulfilled. That is to say, I would not be taking part just for the pleasure of being a candidate," he added.

Under the constitution of the Fifth Republic, drawn up by De Gaulle to bring greater stability to France, presidents hold office for seven years with wide-ranging powers, while Parliament is elected every five years.

Parliamentary elections are due next year, and both Mr Chirac and Mr Giscard have indicated that they would not rule out serving in a rightwing government under a Socialist President, known in French politics as cohabitation.

But Mr Barre said he was firmly against any form of cohabitation, adding: "Cohabitation would mean two lost years for France. How would it be possible to act effectively in a difficult national or international situation, if the government is limited in its actions by the presence of a President of the opposition tendency?"

Mr Barre, who has consistently distanced himself from both Mr Chirac and Mr Giscard, said that cohabitation could trigger a return to the days of the Fourth Republic, when there were numerous changes of government because of the power of the National Assembly and the largely ceremonial function of the president.—Reuter.

Walesa murder plot a fiction, says killer

Warsaw: A convicted murderer who said he had been recruited to kill Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, has told Polish television that he invented the story after watching crime films.

Jozef Szczepanski, aged 34, was detained for investigation after he told Mr Walesa at his home in Gdansk three weeks ago that an unidentified man had offered him a gun to shoot the union leader in return for money and a passport.

In a television interview broadcast, apparently from a prison cell, Mr Szczepanski was asked if he had made up his story on the basis of crime films and detective novels.

"Yes, on films, above all on films," he replied.

Mr Szczepanski was jailed for 11 years in 1981 for murdering a policeman. When he spoke to Mr Walesa he was on compassionate leave from prison because his wife was ill.

Mr Walesa said in a statement yesterday: "If what

Szczepanski said (in the interview) is true, then I am glad."

The Polish government said that Mr Szczepanski had a history of mental disturbance and suicide attempts, and cautioned against giving credence to his claims.

However, opposition activists have taken threats against themselves seriously since the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Popieluski, was kidnapped and murdered by security policeman last October.

Mr Walesa's lawyer, Mr Jacek Taylor, said that a mysterious aspect of Mr Szczepanski's story was his refusal to parole so soon after he had been convicted of murder. The government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, said that prisoners were often given compassionate leave.

The Warsaw prosecutor's office said yesterday that Mr Szczepanski was still in detention, and his statement that he had invented the murder plot would have to be investigated.—Reuter.

Jubilant as monks return to Moscow

From Martin Walker in Moscow

DRESSED in embroidered vestments of blue and gold, a cross of diamonds glittering on his white mitre, the Metropolitan Alexei yesterday 'splashed' holy water on the bluish concrete foundations of the first new building of the Russian Orthodox church has been permitted since the revolution.

Cranes and bulldozers froze into stillness as he blessed the stones on this 'historic day of our church' and 10 black-robed monks of Moscow's first working monastery for almost 70 years hymned the ancient orthodox hymns of blessing.

Known in the West as the triumphal theme of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, it rang proudly through the building, site within the vast walls of the Danilovsky monastery, the oldest monastery in Moscow, and since 1293, the city's southern fortress.

The building, blessed yesterday, will be the future heart of the Orthodox church. It will contain the official residence of the patriarch, and of the synod, and the church's first permanent administrative headquarters.

"With God's help, we shall complete this great work by the summer of 1988, for the 1000th anniversary of the founding of Christianity in Russia," the Metropolitan Alexei said as the crane swung the huge concrete block into place and the bells of the Simion Stolpnik bell tower rang out.

For the Russian church, there is enormous symbolic importance to the return of the patriarch and the synod to Moscow. The dominance of Moscow among the other rival principalities of old Russia was assured by the decision of the Patriarch to settle in what then became the Russian capital. The synod, abandoned Moscow after Peter the Great moved the court to Petersburg, and abolished the patriarch's power. Since the revolution of 1917, its official residence has been in the old monastery town of Zagorsk.

"The church has come home," said the Archimandrite Yevlaji as he raised a glass of wine, and proposed a toast to "the next seven centuries of the Danilovsky monastery."

After the revolution, the Danilovsky monastery was turned first into a home for juvenile delinquents, and more recently into the office of the Iskra-iron works. It was formally handed back to the church two years ago, and in his speech of blessing, Metropolitan Alexei said: "We thank the Soviet government which responded to our request to build here a new centre for the church in Russia."

The new building is taking place at the same time as restoration of the four churches, dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, in the heart of the monastery's vast ground. The great walls of the Danilovsky, which echo the red brick fortress of the Kremlin itself, are also being restored, and the overall cost of the building and restoration will come to almost \$10 million. A fast-borne in full by the church, and with contributions from the public, even the authorities acknowledge that about 10 per cent of the population, nearly 30 million people, count themselves as Orthodox believers.

The 10 monks, bringing at the Danilovsky monastery and supervising the restoration will gradually be joined by 50 more, as it becomes the church's administrative centre and a full working monastery, with residential accommodation for guests. The current prior, Archimandrite Yevlaji, was formerly senior professor of the theology centre at Zagorsk.

The reopening of the Danilovsky, and the return of synod and prior to Moscow, symbolises the understanding the church has reached with the Soviet state.

The Patriarch Pimen, for example, is a member of the Soviet peace committee, and attends formal Kremlin ceremonies after the Red Square parades. Some militant believers have attacked the church leadership for making too many compromises with the Soviet system, but in the Danilovsky monastery yesterday the rewards of that compromise for the church were plain to see.

As the foundation stones settled into the ground, the cross painted on its side facing the eastward altar, the Metropolitan Alexei crossed himself and said a prayer of thanks. Around him, the crowd of 200 or so building workers crowded themselves in unison. Some joined in the ancient chants, and as the Metropolitan walked back to drink a toast, women crowded around to kiss his hand. The monks had come home to Moscow.

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"The church has come home," said the Archimandrite Yevlaji as he raised a glass of wine, and proposed a toast to "the next seven centuries of the Danilovsky monastery."

After the revolution, the Danilovsky monastery was turned first into a home for juvenile delinquents, and more recently into the office of the Iskra-iron works. It was formally handed back to the church two years ago, and in his speech of blessing, Metropolitan Alexei said: "We thank the Soviet government which responded to our request to build here a new centre for the church in Russia."

The new building is taking place at the same time as restoration of the four churches, dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, in the heart of the monastery's vast ground. The great walls of the Danilovsky, which echo the red brick fortress of the Kremlin itself, are also being restored, and the overall cost of the building and restoration will come to almost \$10 million. A fast-borne in full by the church, and with contributions from the public, even the authorities acknowledge that about 10 per cent of the population, nearly 30 million people, count themselves as Orthodox believers.

The 10 monks, bringing at the Danilovsky monastery and supervising the restoration will gradually be joined by 50 more, as it becomes the church's administrative centre and a full working monastery, with residential accommodation for guests. The current prior, Archimandrite Yevlaji, was formerly senior professor of the theology centre at Zagorsk.

The reopening of the Danilovsky, and the return of synod and prior to Moscow, symbolises the understanding the church has reached with the Soviet state.

The Patriarch Pimen, for example, is a member of the Soviet peace committee, and attends formal Kremlin ceremonies after the Red Square parades. Some militant believers have attacked the church leadership for making too many compromises with the Soviet system, but in the Danilovsky monastery yesterday the rewards of that compromise for the church were plain to see.

As the foundation stones settled into the ground, the cross painted on its side facing the eastward altar, the Metropolitan Alexei crossed himself and said a prayer of thanks. Around him, the crowd of 200 or so building workers crowded themselves in unison. Some joined in the ancient chants, and as the Metropolitan walked back to drink a toast, women crowded around to kiss his hand. The monks had come home to Moscow.

Under the constitution of the Fifth Republic, drawn up by De Gaulle to bring greater stability to France, presidents hold office for seven years with wide-ranging powers, while Parliament is elected every five years.

Parliamentary elections are due next year, and both Mr Chirac and Mr Giscard have indicated that they would not rule out serving in a rightwing government under a Socialist President, known in French politics as cohabitation.

But Mr Barre said he was firmly against any form of cohabitation, adding: "Cohabitation would mean two lost years for France. How would it be possible to act effectively in a difficult national or international situation, if the government is limited in its actions by the presence of a President of the opposition tendency?"

Mr Barre, who has consistently distanced himself from both Mr Chirac and Mr Giscard, said that cohabitation could trigger a return to the days of the Fourth Republic, when there were numerous changes of government because of the power of the National Assembly and the largely ceremonial function of the president.—Reuter.

However, opposition activists have taken threats against themselves seriously since the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Popieluski, was kidnapped and murdered by security policeman last October.

Mr Walesa's lawyer, Mr Jacek Taylor, said that a mysterious aspect of Mr Szczepanski's story was his refusal to parole so soon after he had been convicted of murder. The government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, said that prisoners were often given compassionate leave.

The Warsaw prosecutor's office said yesterday that Mr Szczepanski was still in detention, and his statement that he had invented the murder plot would have to be investigated.—Reuter.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Gandhi to hold summit

PRESIDENT Jayewardene of Sri Lanka is to fly to Delhi today for talks with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on the worsening Tamil problem in Sri Lanka, writes Ajoy Bose.

They are expected to fly together to Bangladesh to tour cyclone disaster areas. The Bangladesh tour was being undertaken in the spirit of regional cooperation, the Indian Foreign Office said.

Over the past month, the Indian Foreign Secretary, Mr Ramesh Chandra, has twice visited Colombo, to try to work out a compromise between the Sri Lankan Government, Sinhalese leaders and Tamil minority groups.

Basque bombing

BASQUE terrorists have been blamed for the deaths of three people, including a boy, aged 14, in Pamplona and Bilbao on Thursday. The boy died when a police vehicle parked outside his home was blown up. A police officer also died in the blast. The attacks bring to ten the number of fatalities in presumed ETA attacks since the beginning of May, Jane Walker writes.

Talks ended

ANGOLA has announced that it is to break off talks about peace with South Africa as a result of increasing South African soldiers last week. Pretoria yesterday accused Lunda of seeking "a pretext" to avoid discussing the withdrawal from Angola of 25,000 Cuban troops. Angola insists upon before granting independence to Namibia.—Reuter.

Reagan's support

A WASHINGTON lobbyist for President Reagan's military policies said yesterday that the White House had expressed support "for the concept" of a meeting in southern Angola this week, and of representation for four anti-Soviet guerrilla organisations, in Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Laos, and Angola. The groups are to form an alliance against communism.—AP.

Torture pay-out

A SOUTH Korean court has ruled that the state should pay compensation to a victim of police torture. Ko Suk-Jong, aged 49, said he was tortured during a police investigation into a murder case. She was acquitted in 1982 because of lack of evidence about its charges, and Pasok expects to be in first place with a percentage of the poll below that of 1981, but above the 41.6 per cent obtained in the 1984 European elections. Leader comment, page 12; the fight for the middle ground, page 17.

Three executed

THREE people were executed by firing squad at dawn yesterday in Ghana's capital, Accra, for conspiracy to commit crime and attempting to sabotage the economy. Last week 11 people were executed for crimes including bank fraud, armed robbery and plotting against the country's leader, Jerry Rawlings.—Reuter.

Appeal fails

THE RINGLEADER of an attempt to topple the Kenyan Government in August, 1982, yesterday lost his appeal against a conviction for treason. Senior army private Ezekiah Ochukwu was sentenced to death for heading an attempt by junior air force officers to overthrow President Daniel arap Moi.—Reuter.

Hotel strike

A STRIKE is planned today that will leave the biggest and best hotels in New York City, including the Waldorf Astoria and Plaza, without barmen, bottlewashers, cooks, and cleaners. The action was to be implemented if talks last night about wages and conditions broke down.—Reuter.

Pilots guilty

TWO SWISS airline pilots were sentenced to jail yesterday for involuntary manslaughter. They were held responsible for a crash in which 38 passengers died near the Portuguese island of Madeira. Gilbert Noel, aged 46, and Nicolas Meget, aged 43, will lodge an appeal.—Reuter.

Sterile state

MEDICAL files seized during police raids on abortion clinics in Queensland included details of state politicians who had illegal vasectomies, a doctor revealed yesterday. About 22,000 patients' files were taken, and a state spokesman said that police would prosecute doctors named in them as performing abortions.—Reuter.

Tehran attacked

THE IRAQI air force bombed Tehran yesterday, and Baghdad announced that it would launch more attacks against Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the northern Gulf.—Reuter.



Twenty-one-year-old Stefanie Richter is the first woman member of the Bonn police to serve in an armoured car. Yesterday she was on patrol in the Bonn government district

US to stay within the Salt boundaries

From Alex Brummer in Washington

President Reagan is expected to tell Congress by the end of next week that the United States intends to keep within the broad provisions of the 1979 Strategic Arms Control Limitation Treaty, although it will make clear its strong reservations.

The National Security Adviser, Mr Robert McFarlane, wrote to Congress yesterday informing its leaders that Mr Reagan's final decision, which was due today, would be postponed until the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, has made a flying visit to Lisbon next week to consult other Nato foreign ministers on the 1979 pact. Although no one in the administration likes Salt II, both Mr Shultz and Mr

McFarlane believe there is little choice but qualified adherence.

The expected decision to keep within Salt comes at a time when senior arms control officials are urging the Soviet Union to accept changes in the 1979 anti-ballistic missile treaty to accommodate a new generation of defensive weapons systems.

In important public addresses, Mr Paul Nitze, President Reagan's special arms control adviser, and the head of the Arms Control Agency, Mr Kenneth Adelman, have made the case for amendments to the ABM treaty in a way which would permit development of Star Wars defences.

A senior arms control aide said that Mr Nitze and Mr

Adelman were seeking to outline the administration's plans for ABM in the future, and there was no intention, as critics allege, of abrogating the treaty. The aide pointed out that SDI had not reached the point where an amendment to the ABM treaty would be required, although the administration believed that it would need changing at some point.

Among the reasons cited was the failure of the strategic arms treaties to hold down the number of offensive weapons, as well as the march of technology. While the need for changes was being raised in Geneva, it was likely that sub-sidy alternatives would not come up until 1988, when the superpowers are due to hold their five-year review.

The official also acknowledged that the idea of defending the 10-warhead MX intercontinental missile with defensive systems was gaining strong currency within the Reagan administration. The US is allowed, under the ABM treaty, one defensive system at Grand Forks, North Dakota. But as current deployments are in existing Montana sites in Nebraska, this would also require amendments to the ABM agreement.

There has been a surge of interest in defensive systems in the past week, following the Senate decision to put a limit of 50 on the number of MX intercontinental missiles deployed. The Senate has agreed to reassess this limit if the administration comes up with a secure way of basing the MX.

Reports spoke of as many as five more arrests.

The navy has announced that a panel of intelligence and operational specialists chaired by Rear-Admiral John Butts, the chief of naval intelligence, would review the Walker's duty assignments and their access to classified information "to determine the possible scope of compromise."

Senator Sam Nunn, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called on President Reagan yesterday to reduce by half the number of people with access to classified information. He said that 4.2 million Americans, including 53 per cent of all government employees and some defence industry workers, have such clearance.

A former CIA deputy director, Mr Bobby Inman, raised fears that anti-submarine warfare tactics may have been compromised. The reason, he said, was that anti-submarine warfare tactics had been compromised over a substantial period of years. Mr Inman explained that the US had had the ability to locate Soviet submarines with "precise" since the 1960s, but had later encountered "Soviet" changes in their system that suggested that the Soviet Union had insider information.

The latest member of the Walker

OVERSEAS NEWS

UN will spend \$111 m on disaster-prevention projects

Britain steps up aid for Bangladesh flood victims

By our Foreign Staff

Britain announced yesterday that it is giving Bangladesh \$700,000 in extra relief for victims of the cyclone disaster. The Minister for Overseas Development, Mr. Timothy Raison, said that £200,000 was for disaster relief and would be mainly channelled through British voluntary relief agencies operating in the country. The other \$500,000 will be for a separate programme of longer term rehabilitation projects. It would help with replanting schemes and reconstruction work, Mr. Raison said. Britain has already offered \$50,000 in immediate disaster relief.

Mr. Raison said he hoped the aid would help with immediate disaster relief and, in the longer term, the restoration of normal life.

London's Asian community yesterday launched its own national appeal for money for cyclone victims. Announcing the appeal, Mr. Munawwar Ali, head of the aid-raising committee, said that the cyclone had destroyed, he said, 100,000 homes.

The Pakistani Government announced that it is sending Bangladesh \$640,000 worth of relief goods.

The Rome-based UN World Food Programme said yesterday it will spend \$111.4 million on building flood barriers and irrigation canals in the devastated state.

The money is for building dykes, digging canals and constructing roads, with the aim of preventing future floods and increasing farm production. The agency said that Bangladesh struggled yesterday to bury its dead, the Government said it will buy a disaster warning system to help avert a similar catastrophe.

While about 50,000 volun-

teers and servicemen handed out food to survivors, officials said some tents sent to bury the dead had to be abandoned because of rotting animal carcasses and human bodies.

A senior naval officer said there could be major health problems unless the dead were buried quickly. The New Nation newspaper reported that at least 10 people had died of diarrhoea on Sandwip, the biggest of seven southern islands engulfed by Friday's tidal wave.

Dhaka's Disaster Control Centre said that 3,000 deaths had now been recorded. Government and Red Cross Officials have said that the final death toll may be about 8,000 but US aid officials said 10,000 deaths seemed likely.

The 45-foot wave spawned by a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal swept thousands of people into the sea, made about 250,000 homeless.

Survivors on the badly-hit island of Urir Char yesterday built new, sturdier tin houses with the help of troops as more bodies floated ashore.

Parts of the island still reeked with the stench of rotting flesh as Navy landing craft took in food, water, and supplies for 3,000 people who survived the cyclone.

President Hossain Ershad yesterday left the islands after spending the night in one of only two concrete structures on the island. He has been supervising relief efforts.

Dr. Abdul Motaleb Choudhury, head of the state-run Space and Atomic Research Centre, said the Government would spend \$3 million over two years on a comprehensive disaster warning system.

Small radio stations would be built on 17 southern islands to relay warnings in offshore areas most likely to be hit by a cyclone. Officials have said that warnings were broadcast on state-run radio before the wave struck but many islands either failed to hear them or ignored them.

Mr. Choudhury said that Bangladesh already had one of the world's most sophisticated forecasting systems.

President Ershad has said that at least \$50 million will be needed to help survivors.



Presidential aid: President Hossain Ershad supervises relief efforts on one of the devastated islands in the Bay of Bengal

Soviet warning over Afghan talks

By Lawrence Lifshultz

SINCE Soviet forces intervened in Afghanistan more than five years ago, the prospect of a negotiated settlement to the Afghan civil war has appeared remote.

This week, a renewed effort to advance the United Nations sponsored talks is under way with the arrival in Kabul and Islamabad of Mr. Diego Cordovez, the UN Secretary-General's special envoy for Afghanistan.

Soviet policy is now poised at a critical moment of choice. The Soviet leader, Mr. Gorbachev, has warned Pakistan that if diplomatic progress remains frozen, Soviet forces could be increased five-fold. But Soviet sources have also indicated that Moscow would much prefer a negotiated settlement which could involve the "Finlandisation" of Afghanistan along neutral lines.

Before landing in Kabul, Mr. Cordovez called on all parties engaged in the conflict, and their foreign allies, to invoke the necessary political will required to advance a negotiated settlement.

The UN Secretary-General's draft agreement was worked out in April, 1983, when the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan provisionally agreed to a working text

as the basis for developing a comprehensive settlement.

The protocol stated that Soviet forces were to be withdrawn in stages from Afghanistan, and refugees were to be simultaneously repatriated from Pakistan. During this process, Pakistan undertook to restrain insurgent activity from within its border, and to work for a ceasefire.

Implicitly, it was understood that the US considered the UN agreement inadequate.

This scuppered the possibility of an advance in the negotiations. Until then it had been accepted by all parties that the reconstitution of the regime in Kabul would occur in parallel with the phased withdrawal of Soviet forces, as had occurred in Finland.

PAKISTAN and Afghanistan will resume talks in three weeks on ways to end the Afghan war but tension between the superpowers still clouds the dialogue, according to a senior UN official.

The tougher Soviet stance came as Pravda revealed that the Washington Post last January which had reported that secret assistance by the Central Intelligence Agency to the rebels in Afghanistan was on the verge of becoming the largest secret operation by the US since Vietnam, with an annual budget of more than \$250 million.

In the past five months a dangerous escalation has got under way. Soviet forces in Afghanistan are estimated to have increased by at least a

quarter in this period, and are now operating in much greater force nearer to the Pakistani frontier than ever before.

But it was significant that Pravda still stressed that the Soviet Union would "be ready to withdraw it by agreement." The paper concluded: "All questions relating to Afghanistan can be solved only by political means. There is no other way."

A Soviet specialist on Afghanistan stated: "The option of 'Finlandisation' is still possible. It is to be preferred. But, if the Geneva negotiations are obstructed, then Soviet policy will be one of 'Mongolisation'."

Moscow has already demonstrated the vast capacity of its military apparatus. Should the Russians increase their forces to half a million men, the scale of the war might perhaps make the terror of the last five years appear in retrospect as the "gentle phase."

Time may be running out on the negotiations. The only solution that is possible is a negotiated diplomatic settlement, says Mr. Cordovez. "But, if a settlement is not reached within the deadline then one must unfortunately concede that the opportunity was missed."

Chinese hooligans face stiff penalties

By John Gittings

CHINA is to deal severely with its own football rioters, warning them they should learn from "the good things and not the bad things" of the West.

In Peking yesterday, the authorities announced the disbandment of the national team, whose defeat by Hong Kong on May 19 had led to riots outside the Workers' Stadium, for being bad losers. Most of the youths arrested that night were reported to have wept after receiving a stern lecture from a volleyball hero known as the "Iron Hammer."

The national team had already published a letter of self-criticism, saying they failed to live up to the expectations of the Communist Party and had let the people down. More specifically, they have been accused of bad sportsmanship, of refusing to shake hands with the winning Hong Kong team and trying to drag an injured opponent off the field.

It is now widely recognised in China that sport has gone a long way since the Cultural Revolution when players were coached according to the slogan "Friendship first and competition second." This used to mean letting opponents — especially those from countries like neighbouring North Korea — win easily, while the Chinese team would win by a landslide.

Ms. Lang Ping, the "Iron Hammer" of the Chinese women's volleyball team, herself stirred up much chauvinistic rejoicing when she helped win the 1981 Asian Games competition.

The Chinese press has published a profile of one of the guilty four, a 21-year-old worker, Mr. Liu Guofang, who smashed the windshield of a police truck outside the stadium, and is now in custody.

Mr. Liu is a gardener at the Babashan cemetery where most of China's leaders are cremated — an unusually pleasant work environment in western Peking with green lawns and wild flowers. He had already been arrested twice in 1984 for "disrupting public order."

Although apologising now for having brought shame on China's capital and on the socialist country, he may receive a severe prison sentence. Sport has to some extent become a substitute for organised political activity among the young since the Cultural Revolution.

Sikhs strike in panicky Punjab

Amritsar: Sikh extremists, defying unprecedented security measures in Punjab for the first anniversary on Monday of the storming of the Golden Temple, have shot dead a Hindu shopkeeper and tried to blow up a bus.

Militant Sikh leaders say 500,000 worshippers are likely to take part in memorial services starting today during what they call "genocide week."

About 100,000 troops and police are reported to be on full alert in Punjab. Police said extremists killed a shopkeeper in a village near the central Punjab town of Hoshiarpur on Thursday night. Three Hindu farmworkers were shot dead in a similar attack on Tuesday.

About 1,000 Sikhs died when the army stormed the sect's holiest shrine on June 3 last year to flush out extremists demanding a separate Sikh state.

The security clampdown and press reports that violence is feared like the May 10 New Delhi bomb attacks, which killed 86 people, set off a minor wave of panic. Hysterical schoolgirls complained that their drinking water had been poisoned and there was a bomb scare at the Atomic Research Centre in Bhopal. The attempt to blow up the bus took place near the border town of Ambala separating Sikh-majority Punjab and largely Hindu Haryana state. The bomb failed to explode.

In Amritsar, the Sikh holy city, and site of the Golden Temple, people rushed to buy food supplies in case of unrest. Haryana authorities suspended all bus services to Punjab, and buses in the state — where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live — were ordered not to run after dark.

Shops in many towns in the two states have been ordered to shut by 8 pm and the border with Pakistan has been sealed. Despite a police roundup of hundreds of suspects since the Delhi bombing, authorities are said to fear that about 2,000 extremists, capable of staging attacks, are still at large.

At a girls' school near the Punjab town of Kapurthala, 12 students aged between 13 and 15 were taken to hospital after they said they had been poisoned by drinking water. But an official said that the water was not poisoned and that the girls were psychologically upset.

In the western state of Gujarat, two people were killed when police opened fire during clashes over government policy on minorities. — Reuters.

Israeli border settlers prepare as troop pull-out leaves them on the front line

Ion Black reports from the Israeli community of Kiryat Shmona, near the Lebanese border, whose inhabitants expect Arab attacks as Israeli troops withdraw from southern Lebanon.

JUST outside Kiryat Shmona, where the old winding road up to the border meets the new highway route into Lebanon, clusters of tired Israeli soldiers stand waiting for rides south.

In the middle of the town, they prop their guns against the railings and chain-smoke in cafes and pizza parlours in the brimy and restless concrete shopping centre.

The army is everywhere, but the Lebanon war has brought peace to this remote and forgotten development town. For nearly three years, the Katyusha rockets and heavy artillery shells that used to whine down from the hills to the north have been a thing of the past.

Now though, as Israel's final withdrawal from Lebanon approaches, the old fears are returning. "People are happy that the boys are coming home," says one middle-aged man in the guttural Moroccan-accented Hebrew you hear everywhere here, "but they're worried too."

Everything is ready. The shelters have been cleaned and re-equipped. There is to be a big civil defence exercise at the end of the month to test the preparedness of Kiryat Shmona's five emergency zones. Municipal psychologists have been talking to the town's 5,000 schoolchildren about what might happen when their homes rejoin the front line.

The story is the same all along Israel's northern border. At Kiryat Mitzpeh, right on the heavily wooded western edge of the Golan Heights, there is a new "panhandle," a heavy electric gate and warnings to drivers to slow down as they approach the double barbed wire fence. The searchlights behind the perimeter point straight into Lebanon.

At Misgav Am, opposite the Shi'ite village of Aedeisa, they are ready too.



FIRING LINE: As Israeli troops move towards a complete withdrawal from southern Lebanon, Jewish families in border settlements prepare for a return to the pre-invasion days when they came under frequent attack

It was there, in April, 1980, that five members of a radical Palestinian group infiltrated the kibbutz and took over the children's dormitory. One two-year-old boy died and four others were injured when the Israeli army broke in and killed the attackers.

"We know that something could happen again but we don't know what," says Zidi, the kibbutz secretary. "The shelters are ready. We've talked to the children. We've passed the test before and we hope that we'll pass it again in the future."

But down in Kiryat Shmona, they're not so optimistic. Every one of the town's 18,000 inhabitants who is older than four remembers that terrible week in July 1981 when more than 1,000 PLO shells and rockets rained down and caused civilian deaths and injuries.

The town's six dead and 60 wounded were nothing compared to the 100 killed and 600 injured in the Israeli air raids on Palestinian targets in West Beirut. But the relentless pounding virtually paralysed the northern region. Many children here still have bedwetting problems.

Golan, a shy adolescent who helps his father in the camera shop behind the bus station, still thinks about the explosions he heard. "I'm glad the army is leaving Lebanon," he says. "But I hope attacks like that will never happen again." The lessons of that week

which bred the American-engineered ceasefire that Israel broke when it launched the war three years ago on Wednesday — have been learned thoroughly here.

"The system just wasn't ready for shelling of that duration and intensity," says Asher Pinyan, director of the Municipal Education Department. "Some classes are already being held in the shelters so pupils can't tell the difference if something does happen. The danger we face is one of quantity. If the quantity is large we will have serious problems here."

But it is not just a question of Katyushas. "The problem," Mr. Pinyan argues, "is the social and economic basis of Kiryat Shmona. A man is older than four remembers that terrible week in July 1981 when more than 1,000 PLO shells and rockets rained down and caused civilian deaths and injuries."

The town's six dead and 60 wounded were nothing compared to the 100 killed and 600 injured in the Israeli air raids on Palestinian targets in West Beirut. But the relentless pounding virtually paralysed the northern region. Many children here still have bedwetting problems.

Golan, a shy adolescent who helps his father in the camera shop behind the bus station, still thinks about the explosions he heard. "I'm glad the army is leaving Lebanon," he says. "But I hope attacks like that will never happen again." The lessons of that week

break out because of them. "We've got no lobby here, not like the kibbutzim," they complain.

Along the frontier, everyone waits for the first shells to fall. The security zone Israel is leaving behind in south Lebanon is not wide enough to put the north out of range of hostile fire. The PLO may no longer be a serious threat, but now there is a new and angry Shi'ite enemy on the other side of the wire.

The Shi'ite Amal movement has been directing its energies to destroying the last traces of the Palestinian presence in Beirut, but no one is sure whether Israel is enjoying a temporary or permanent respite.

From Metulla, the northernmost town on the border, you can still see the scorch marks on the road only yards inside Lebanese territory, where a Shi'ite suicide bomber crashed into an Israeli army truck and blew up a dozen soldiers a few weeks ago.

Bezael Belsky, the jovial owner of the Cedars Hotel in Metulla, is not unduly worried about the future. "Before, the army was in Tyre and Sidon and on the Awaal river. Now they're going to be looking after us. We've had shells hit us before and we may have shellfire again. But I think the Israeli army can keep the peace of Golan without being so deep inside Lebanon. Without policing the Druze and the Shi'ites and all the other shit up there."

PLO chief happy with US talks

AMMAN: The PLO chairman, Mr. Yasser Arafat, has expressed satisfaction over talks between King Hussein of Jordan and President Reagan in Washington, a spokesman said yesterday.

He said that Mr. Arafat, who returned to Beirut from his summit talks in Damascus, expressed his "great appreciation and full satisfaction with the nationalist stand of the King in his talks with Mr. Reagan and other US officials."

The King has called for PLO participation in peace talks under the umbrella of an international conference attended by all parties concerned and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The United States and Israel oppose an international conference on the Middle East and negotiations with the PLO.

The US Secretary of State, Mr. George Shultz, told King Hussein that the United States would work with him to resolve their differences.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived in Amman on Wednesday, is expected to remain in the King.

Israel officials expressed satisfaction yesterday with the visit by King Hussein, saying that the United States had a line between betraying Israel and sending Hussein away empty-handed.

The officials said that a big American public relations effort had gone into making the trip a success. It was important to the peace process that the King felt encouraged but not victorious.

"There must be an impression of something moving, of the possibility for optimism, while still insisting on the importance of direct negotiations with us," one official said.

Sabra camp falls as truce collapses

From David Hirst

Shi'ite Amal fighters were yesterday reported to have taken the Sabra Palestinian refugee camp after saying they had crushed last resistance there and in the neighbouring Chatila camp, despite a unilateral ceasefire announced earlier by Shi'ite forces.

The abortive ceasefire came as President Amin Gemayel returned to Beirut from his summit talks in Damascus, asserting that President Hafez al-Assad is determined "to close the Lebanese dossier" once and for all.

But there is still no clear indication that Mr. Assad intends to send in his army to impose a general settlement.

In the 12th day of the battle for the camps, Amal said its men had received orders for a ceasefire, declaring it was "global" and that it had to be "totally respected."

Amal fighters had "finished off pockets of resistance in Sabra and Chatila," Amal said, and a Palestinian spokesman said later that Amal was still attacking after a powerful bombardment.

The PLO privately concedes that though some fighters are still holding out here and there in Chatila, Sabra has fallen.

In a statement from Damascus, the Palestinian Salvation Front, a coalition of pro-Syrian guerrilla organisations, announced that it had accepted a

truce. It also called on Palestinians in the camps to agree to it. It was the "indispensable" basis for solving the crisis. This constitutes a major retreat.

There has been no official word on the Damascus summit from either side. The two leaders had four sessions, only the last of which was attended by Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Mr. Assad's envoy on Lebanese affairs. According to a Ba'athist source who accompanied the President to Syria, Assad has still not decided to send back his troops into parts of Lebanon — particularly Beirut — from which they were driven out in 1982. He still insists that he will only do that, if at all in the context of a political entente among all Lebanese parties.

This means the laborious process of working out political reforms — brutally interrupted by the anti-Gemayel rebellion of Christian militiamen, and the latest convulsions in the south and in the capital — is now expected to resume again under a presumably firmer Syrian hand.

The Ba'athist source to have reconsecrated Mr. Gemayel as their chosen instrument, it is now up to him to see to the implementation of the reform programme worked out in Geneva and Lausanne with a greater seriousness than he has shown so far — and to carry the Christian community with him.

Amal grabs pro-Israel militiamen

Beirut: Shi'ite Muslim gunmen snatched 26 militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army from Israeli-held territory early yesterday.

Security forces said the guerrillas kidnapped the men from the village of Al-Thamriyah, five miles west of the Israeli border, in a zone policed by UN troops.

The Israeli sector overlaps the zone, where tension has been rising as Israel's expected withdrawal from south Lebanon draws closer. The two factions have clashed several times in recent weeks, heightening fears of fighting once the Israelis pull back to their border.

Lebanese police said the militiamen of the mainly Christian SLA were taken by Shi'ite Amal fighters before dawn to a base near the southern port of Tyre.

The Israeli military command in Tel-Aviv declined to comment.

The kidnapping came a day after the Amal leader, Mr. Nabil Berri, pledged a "qualitative change" in attacks against the Israelis and their allies.

Mr. Berri said "orders have been given for uprisings in the border villages which will be reinforced with Amal military support from outside the border strip for the recovery of all our villages." — AP.

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The Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh are getting no public subsidy. Eriand Clouston inquires how they intend to raise the required millions. Sponsors have such Highland names as Coca Cola, Elf Oil, and Wang

THIS WEEK a peculiar form of national consciousness-raising began. The next Commonwealth Games are to be held in Edinburgh in 1986, and the people appointed to raise the money for it — the Commonwealth Games Consortium — began informing the people appointed to fund it — British industry — what the consortium have achieved so far and what they intend to achieve in the future. Their progress over the next 13 months will be scrutinised by the brave people who are anxious to demonstrate that the 1982 Olympics can be satisfactorily promoted in London, Birmingham, or Manchester.

The position so far is this. The Commonwealth Games Appeal Fund, aimed at you and me and small boys weeding windows boxes, has raised £550,000. Their target is £12.5 million. The consortium's target is £12 million, and how far they have got towards this depends on which accounting procedure you adopt.

"We are about 40 per cent of the way there," says Robin Farley, the consortium's managing director. But this is money promised, not money used. If used already stuffed into the back pocket. "We are clearly still overdrawn," says Sir Russell Fairgrieve, chairman of the consortium. "We have been chewing our

nails a bit, though it's coming away now."

Sir Russell is the head of Crawford Hall, Saatchi and Saatchi's Scottish division. Mr. Farley is a partner in Arthur Young, the management consultants at present fine-tuning Manchester's Olympic pretensions. Four other senior executives — two from each company — make up a board that sits once a month. They have had a team of 12 consultants sitting full time since October. Two men — one of them Sir Russell — have been across to Los Angeles, picking the brains behind the first private (and profit-making) Olympics. The most satisfying information they picked up was that 80 per cent of sponsorship money flows into the last with just three or four months to go.

Raising billions of dollars in America is one thing; raising £12 million in Britain is another. The last time anyone tried anything like it in Scotland (the Darien Scheme, 1696) a third of the country's cash circulation went down the plugholes. It is noticeable that the Bank of Scotland, brought into existence to underwrite that Caledonian imperial tragedy, is keeping a discreet distance this time.

Another little local difficulty is the politician. When Edinburgh requested the Games, it had a Conservative administration. Last year the city converted to a sort of Cal-

vinist Socialist regime, reluctant to throw into the windmill the sort of money that could help keep 30 people alive. There has been much blood on the tartan track (reaid, thank fully, 18 months ago) and unnecessary yardage of bad publicity.

When the New Zealand Rugby Union announced that they intended to tour South Africa, possibly softening them up for a Lions' safari, the consortium members must have felt like jumping off the Forth Road Bridge.

Things are a little clearer and calmer now. Threats of an African boycott, at least relating to New Zealand boorishness, have receded. Gravelly optimism tumbles from the throat of Kenneth Borthwick, ex (Conservative) Lord Provost of Edinburgh, present chairman of the Commonwealth Games Organising Committee. He has forwarded to Mrs Thatcher copies of letters he has written applauding the New Zealand Commonwealth Games Committee. ("Please don't go") and the New Zealand Prime Minister ("Don't you bloody well dare to go") for opposing the South African tour. Word gets around. "There is now a very strong feeling of goodwill towards us." The councillors are coming up trumps too, chipping in £400,000 to refurbish the velodrome (it's still unroofed, so pack your tarpaulins, you cyclists of Funga and Vanuatu). The Darien Factor is being overcome by a natty plasticated sponsor's manual that lays it sternly on the line for the British businessman.

"There is a requirement in the national interest to demonstrate to the world that the Commonwealth and that Britain can successfully mount a cost-effective Games."

While British businessmen try to work out what this means, foreign businessmen, less fussy about their grammar, have waded in deep. The 13th Commonwealth Games, brought to the world from Scotland for a second time (a record), is so far largely subsidised by the well-known Highland concerns Coca Cola, Elf Oil, Rank Xerox, Wang, and Speedo swimming trunks.

We have these wonderful people from television to thank for all of this. In 1970 only a few million of us watched Don Quixote take the 100 metres title in 10.2 seconds. In 1986 the consortium claim they will have a billion viewers eating out of

their hand. All over the Commonwealth there is an under-researched ethnological crisis as governments trade in their runners (left stick variety) for telecommunications satellites that can pump out moving pictures of their runners (Nike training shoe flashing variety) limping home 17th in the 5,000 metres.

On the strength of all this, the consortium can charge a whopping £100,000 for a track-side banner (length unspecified) at the athletics and still say, hand on heart, to the sceptical emissaries from Nikon, Quasars, and the Seychelles Tractor Co.

"This offers exceptional value at only 2.8 per cent of the commercial cost to reach a similar audience on UK television."

If your budget does not run to six figures, they offer packages that run all the way down to a classified ad in the official Games souvenir handbook (cost circulation 250,000). If you've always fancied your firm's sticker on the high jump bar, this could be your opportunity. According to Maurice Griffiths (Crawford Hall, Saatchi, and consortium) they are "constantly monitoring television sport to see where the frontiers of sports advertising are being extended." The BBC has a rule book about these things. Let Mo's men catch another agency pulling another fast one with an unwary director and he'll be down on the BBC like a ton of Scotch mist seeking "friendly discussions" and with luck "minor concessions."

It is the way in these matters that much of the money raised will buy things that do not touch on the sportsman and woman directly. The one immutable law of Great Sporting Occasions is that it takes twice as many words to describe a winner as it did the year before. Twice as many words demand twice as much massaging by sophisticated Japanese telemetry systems at either end. Surprisingly, when the Games are over, the huge press centre will become an indoor tennis arena rather than an advanced physics laboratory that Harriet Watt University could probably do with.

Security for everybody. Security for everybody (there was no security in Munich 1970) will cost a cool million, or £100,000 a day. Renting the student flats which will constitute the holiday village costs another million. Staging the whole of the 1970 Games cost only £200,000.

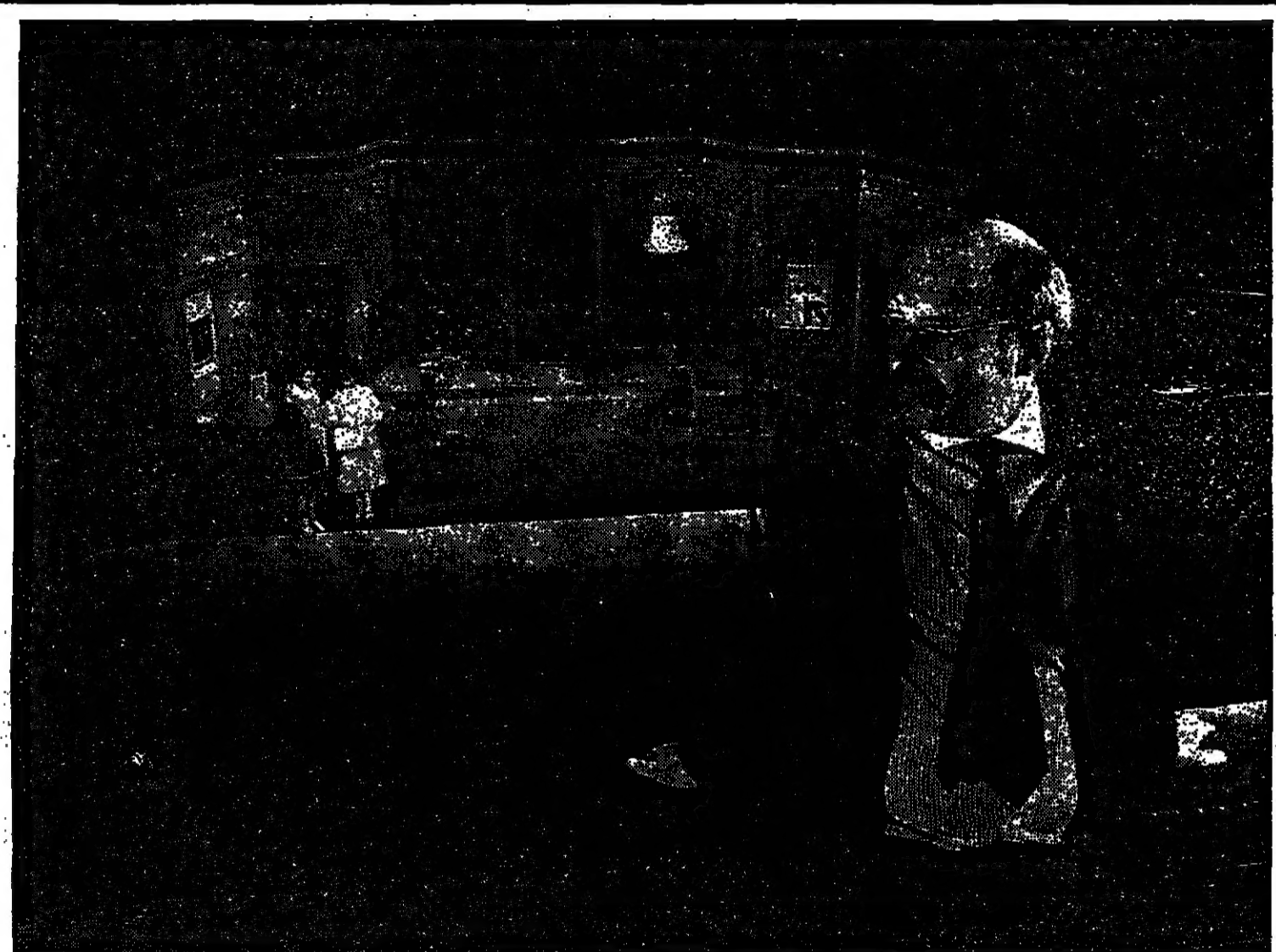
Naturally there has been some muttering about the broad-shouldered fraternity. The swimmers are bitching about cracked skulls because the organisers are making them dive in at the shallow end. To lower the shallow end nine inches would have cost "a colossal sum." (If your son can't get a job with Wang, or Securitor, throw him into swimming pool refurbishment.) The shooters are making unhappy noises about having to spread themselves over five centres up to 40 miles from Edinburgh. The wrestlers had hoped for a proper sports hall, but are having to make do with the Playhouse Theatre. The cyclists can't sleep at night for thinking of their lack of snow cover.

"We'll have brought the Commonwealth together in the capital city of Scotland. We'll have demonstrated that we subscribe to the ideals of the Commonwealth. We'll have increased interest in sport in Scotland and the United Kingdom." They do not plan to make a profit but, if, by chance, they do, it will be sunk carefully into Scottish sport.

This said, it should be a wonderful occasion. Already the running for the biggest ever Games in terms of competitors prepared to flounder over from sheep stations, wampum lodges, paddy fields and timber trails in 1970 Edinburgh drew 1,750 competitors in Brisbane. Last time round, they reached 2,300. Borthwick (and no doubt every merchant prince in Cramond, Corstorphine and Morningside) is planning to receive 2,500. The gold medal of gold medals — an actual 100 per cent Commonwealth turnout — is still being talked of as a possibility. It'll be poignant, somehow, to cheer on a freezing Western Samoan weightlifter knowing that R. L. Stevenson's rambling are lapping up the sunshine back home in Apia.

And, by the way, if you know of a good distillery that might want to sponsor a closing ceremony...

The man who has re-opened Crewe's bijou theatre gets a unique form of subsidy: 'For every person we get in, we get 80p. We're encouraged to put on what people want to see.' And he produces a different play every week: 'If you have three weeks of rehearsal, what do you do with the other two? Do you speak slowly?' Robin Thorner has been to see the end product, but he left at the interval. John Cocks stayed long enough to photograph Stephen Wischhusen and this week's rehearsal for *Gigi*, which opens on Monday.



Scenes from their TV programmes, and the attitudes of their rulers, often depict the American way of life as violent and vengeful. But this is rejected by a widening strand of opinion in the States. Susan Thomas meets its latest exponent to visit Britain.

Stand & deliver

IF *Dynasty*, Dallas, computer, and cruise are in the mainstream of US exports to Britain, then Father Bede Smith, priest, civil rights worker, liberation theologian, and a specialist in the psychology of violence, must be part of the radical undercurrent. For the thinking Church is one of America's liveliest exports and a fact which can be little satisfaction to its President, since it involves so many men and women of unimpeachable academic respectability who are highly critical of his policies.

They arrive, these monks and nuns, priests and bishops, in the guise of scientist, media specialist, or theologian, pause just long enough to critique the airwaves by storm, and then fly out again leaving us to digest the latest unpalatable truth. So far we've had the theory of nuclear winter, the news that low level radiation is killing off the species, and the pronouncement that just wars disappeared with the development of nuclear weapons.

Bede Smith's research is less dramatic and more fundamental. He is concerned with the violence in society, whether institutionalised, casual, or endemic. Here at the invitation of Pax Christi, the International Catholic Peace Movement, he has come to look at the way we handle peace and justice issues (the exploitation of the underprivileged through unemployment, racism, sexism, and militarism) and cope with, or by, violence.

What had he made of us so far, I asked, my thoughts on picket lines, football terrace, and inner city streets. He refused to be drawn. Except to say how impressed he was by the English police successfully fulfilling their role without guns.

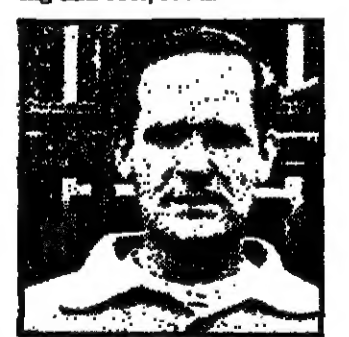
Unfortunately for us the police are not the only source of violence in the States, is pretty near a primary right. Even though the evidence shows that an average of 100 guns are bought by citizens to be used in self defence against a burglar, or mugger or rapist — some imaginary person who threatens their personal safety — in fact, two-thirds of the killings of friends and relatives are committed with those same guns.

It is all part of the national myth, he says, the myth of cowboys, the Indians, cops and robbers, its past in folk memory and its present on the TV screen. "The TV media is less and less a friend of our people. It creates violent images of a violent society with a violent police force. Inevitably, to a certain extent the police build up a tough image of themselves."

He was less than lyrical about our American TV consumption. Miami Vice, Dirty Harry, Dallas, the A Team, even the acclaimed Hill Street Blues, which shows caring, responsible police but still has the sergeant ending the briefing with the injunction to "Get out and do it to them before they do it to you."

"Anything which feeds the imagination with scenes of people being burned, tortured, beaten, blown up, has to have a spill-over." It is worse, he adds, in the States where a dozen channels and cable TV offer "Adult" movies and violence all day long. And increasingly it is the imaginary threats which disturb people — the mythical burglar, the Soviet invader — all the more frightening for being unknown.

And the growth of the New Right, whose missionary tentacles have such a strong grasp on Central America, is the most worrying trend in the States: "Its emphasis on law and order, revenge, the use of violent law enforce-



Bede Smith

ment procedures, something you only ever see in the poor and ghetto areas of the country."

It is always the poor who suffer, just as poverty and not colour decided whether you lived or died in Vietnam, now it is wealth and colour which decides whether you serve a prison sentence for murder or end up on Death Row. We're talking about the colour of the victim, in the States, it is, he says, the poorest prisoners who die. "Colour is a major factor. Not as we first thought, the colour of the murderer, but the colour of the victim. If the victim is black, the killer is most unlikely to die. If the killer is rich, he will almost certainly escape the death penalty."

As opinion hardens in the States, revenge replaces rehabilitation and extraordinary scenes occur. Parents present at the execution of their daughter's killer celebrate with drinks and dancing outside the gaol. "Worse were the sheriff's men who lined the road to lead to the prisoner on his way to execution and celebrated in the street when it was accomplished. There is this growing tendency to see the 'enemy' — whether a murderer or a Russian — as sub-human, someone who can be denied basic human rights."

Before we met he recommended me to read the work of Jacques Ellul, the French philosopher and theologian who postulated the theory that violence, once committed, is self-perpetuating and reciprocal.

Violence begets violence, he said, and so such thing as a little violence to ensure a peaceful society later. Look at every state which came into being by violent means. Each maintains itself by one form or another of psychological violence — propaganda, secret societies, biased reporting, or brainwashing.

So is there no way out of the violence trap? "Only by a commitment to non-violence," says Smith. Non-violent opposition can work, but first, knowledge — detailed, accurate, and wide ranging knowledge — is essential.

At the moment society finds itself in a psychological impasse. Whether we approve of deterrence or whether we don't, we are still involved in a psychological battle to make sure war doesn't occur. Both sides are dealing with a ghost... something which only exists in our imagination. It is a situation which makes us more vulnerable to emotional manipulation, less rational, more explosive in our reactions.

Non Violent Direct Action can push issues into the public consciousness, forcing governments to examine and explain their policies. And the Church, which has long neglected its pacifist roots, is busy doing the same thing. "Too much emphasis has been put on Jesus' criticism of the Pharisees and not enough attention paid to St Matthew's gospel — 'All who take the sword shall perish by the sword.'"

Pansey for thought. On the one hand Father Bede Smith had said nothing about the situation in England. On the other hand, he had said everything.

All change at Crewe

WEEKLY REP. The very idea has become a term of abuse during the past theatrical generation. As subsidised civic culture bloomed during the sixties, grant-aids and expectations rose. Three-week runs became the norm, lengthening to four and six weeks in some "centres of excellence." Old hands nostalgical about learning the hard way, but no one wanted to go back. It seemed unthinkable, except in odd corners of the kingdom where the 1930s survive in other ways too.

But Stephen Wischhusen thought of it, and during the past year he has revived professional weekly rep at the Lyceum Theatre in Crewe, Cheshire. What's more, he has persuaded the local council to subsidise which is, so far as I know, unique. "For every person we get in, we get 80p," he says. "It's the most enlightened form of grant-aid ever. We're encouraged to put on what people want to see."

The council's view is that they are subsidising not the theatre management but the audience, encouraging the entrepreneur by providing tickets more cheaply. But Stephen Wischhusen is well aware that this system is directly contrary to the principle of conventional grant-aid, which he sees as subsidising failure and therefore penalising success.

Stephen Wischhusen's argument is that subsidy insulates the artistic director from the demands of the box office; it

enables them to indulge their own whims. "If people have this cushion of wealth they become out of touch with their audience," he says. "Theatre has become synonymous with political theatre. Ordinary people in this country don't want to be preached at. It's like the thirties. People want escapism. Life in this part of the country can be a bit brutal. You want something else."

Crewe Lyceum has had a shaky history for as long as I can remember. Finally losing its Arts Council grant in the 1981 round of cuts, the trust which ran it closed its doors the following year. Built in 1911, it's a listed building so the council, which owns it, can't knock it down. But they were fed up with subsidising unsuccessful attempts to operate it.

"I would have said that people didn't go because standards were poor. And standards were poor not because the level of subsidy was too high, but because the level of subsidy was too low to sustain a decent quality of drama," Stephen Wischhusen is out to prove me wrong out of my time, he says. "I was born too late." He started in the business 21 years ago, when he was 19, and worked for Donald O'Connor in the West End and as a cinema manager. "Working nine to five is boring," he says. "I don't know what to do at night."

When he heard that the

Crewe Lyceum was in difficulties, he applied to run it and was turned down. So he has leased the building through a company, Garrick House, which he runs with accountant Geoff Thomson, who spent most of his career in industry. "We took over in July last year on a wing and a prayer and by turning the clock back 25 years, the local audience has started to come back."

In their first six-week season, he says, audiences built to 40 per cent of capacity, where the previous administration had attracted only 25 per cent for touring shows. Some nights then there would be as few as 35 people in. "We've had no night with less than 200." Even Marius Goring in *I Have Been Here Before* played to a total audience no more than an average of 100. "Crewe likes to make its own stars."

With only 530 seats, you cannot afford star name tours, Stephen Wischhusen says. "I have a guarantee of £7,000 or £8,000 plus VAT, and the theatre costs £1,500 a week to run, so you've got to take £11,000 before you've made a penny. In your best weeks you reach £7,000."

With weekly rep, costs average around £2,900 a week. Their production of *Steaming* played to 65 per cent — just over 2,000 admissions — bringing in £2,700 at the box office and £1,700 in those 80p from the council. If they achieved full houses of 3,150 seats a week, at current prices of £2

BEDSIDE MANNERS: the last of Harry Whiwell's three articles about his experiences of hospital life Don't get sentimental over nurses on duty at Christmas

ON HEARING that a friend or relative has been taken into hospital, the first question that normally springs to mind is, why? Anyone really concerned should always inquire with equal urgency, when? For, to adapt Ecclesiastes, there are times for not being ill and times for not being taken ill. Most certainly there are times for not being taken ill. Of course, if you have a heart attack or break your leg, you don't have a lot of choice. At any rate, if you are taken ill, to allow you any less say at all, there are times best steered well clear of.

Weekends come into this category, for the obvious reason that doctors, like the rest of us, like to spend their family and friends, and tend not to lie on all that thick on the ground after Friday tea time. Less apparent are the weaknesses of the reserve team left

on duty. Not only are they normally considerably junior in age and experience, but they usually work overtime hours, with broken or interrupted sleep, not conditions conducive to alert minds and sound judgment.

Junior hospital doctors have been known to complain that after two nights without getting their heads down, Sunday evening finds them scarcely knowing a mallet finger from a Malta fever. So if you think the distinction might be important to you, remember the 24 team will be back on Monday morning.

What holds for weekends holds even more true for holidays. And the worse the holiday, the worse it will be. Probably the worst is Christmas. The hospital is a shambles. Christmas. The uninitiated are liable to become very sentimental about nurses during

the festive season, and cry into their beer at the thought of the gallant little ladies walking the wards while everyone else is celebrating. Little do they realise that the nurse for whom they weep is probably at a bigger and better party than they are, and the fact that it is being held on hospital premises does not necessarily make it entirely acceptable. Indeed, it may mean that some patients are kept awake by noise as well as pain.

Of course the patient is not left out of the festivities completely. There is a long, almost Dickensian — tradition which demands that the doctors leave their own Christmas dinners and serve the sitting-up sick with something as close to turkey and Christmas as the kitchen can contrive to make, and the patient manager to keep down. To anyone who has been in the services it's all a bit reminiscent of the officers invading the OR's mess to serve the men.

Patients — like the privates — are usually glad when it's all over and they discard the paper caps and forced smiles and return to some more satisfying writing and groaning.

Analogies between hospitals and the armed forces occur at other times than Christmas. Some are obvious, like the importance attached to rank — nurse, staff nurse, sister, and so on — others less so. Thus one might well expect to take on a different, protective personality when joining the army. The need to do the same thing in hospital is less apparent, but no less real.

For instance, it's a good idea to come from somewhere definite and identifiable. If your native health is, say, Shropshire or Hereford, forget it. Say you come from Wales. That way you will instantly be

known as Old Taff to the nearly-well patients who distil out the food and fetch and carry other comforts, and the student nurse from Caernarvon who is on at night will sit and talk to you longer than to anyone else in the ward.

Similarly with sports. Football, or that Rugby League and Rugby Union are all one to you. Pick a team — any team — and proclaim yourself a fan. Pin its colours above your bed and watch the doctors make a bee-line for you. Delighted to be given a ready-made conversational opening, you may be able to lure them into talking about what is wrong with you. And it goes without saying that their characteristics of this new assumed personality will be courage in the face of pain, and the Boy Scout kind of cheerfulness that smiles and whistles under all difficulties.

If all this sounds as though I am being harshly critical of hospitals, let me rush to correct that. They are — even in these progressive times — institutions. They behave like institutions, and expect those who come into them, however briefly, to recognise this and allow themselves to be to some extent institutionalised.

Naturally they don't tell you this in the booklets and leaflets they hand out to new arrivals. But it is true all the same, which is why it seemed worth mentioning here. What is also true is that most people adapt to it much faster and more easily than they expect. And there is an unexpected bonus in this. For when they are discharged from the hospital there is in addition to the satisfaction of having beaten their illness, an added pleasure in that they have encountered an unfamiliar pattern of life and adapted successfully to it.

Robin Thorner hails Ayckbourn's superb new drama.

Savage spirit of the family

THE CENTRAL character of Alan Ayckbourn's latest play is one of the most moving and devastating that he has created.

A person's wife, Susan seems to be sentenced to a subordinate life. While the great man lives for his great work—which is actually nothing more than a 60-page history of the parish for the civic society—he is ministered to by his wife and sister an equally unhappy and unfulfilled widow.

Susan's vitality is directed into an active fantasy life, peopling the play with an idealised family, invisible to others, which positively mirrors the negative gaps in her own reality.

Instead of being a peripheral supporter, she is at the centre of their concerns. She renounces a life of pampered luxury with a ruggedly handsome husband who says and does all the protective things women dream of.

Instead of the competitive sister-in-law, there is a fiercely loyal younger brother. And her awkwardly alienated son is replaced with a successful and devoted daughter.

Ayckbourn's production at the Stephen Joseph theatre in the round in Scarborough brilliantly juxtaposes and superimposes these two worlds. Horrid actuality is mischievously invoked by Russell Dixon's insufferably smug clergyman and Heather Stoner as his crassly awful sister.

And there is a superlative performance from Ursula Jones as Susan, a little girl longing to be taken care of but growing in awareness that her dreams are turning into a nightmare.

As Ayckbourn digs relentlessly deeper into her psyche the farce becomes more bizarre, so the volume of laughter increases to block out the pain until the last, lingering moment as she sinks into incoherence.

Who else has the nerve, the assurance, and the accomplishment to leave us on such a downbeat of despair, by way of such meriment? Who else could turn the dramatic cliché of a knock on the head into such a compassionate study of the damage we unwittingly, unfeelingly, do to each other?

It takes one to tango, as Mick Brown found out when he talked to singer Helene Delavault

La femme fatale

LIKE the silk stockings, the way with a cigarette, the je ne sais quoi of some of its most famous practitioners, the cabaret of pre-war Paris and Berlin holds a fatal charm — not least for those who would seek to evoke it, recreate it or attempt to convince us, and themselves, that they still inhabit it. Cabaret has become one of the last refuges of the scoundrel. But Helene Delavault is something different.

Classically trained, a singer primarily of opera, Delavault interprets the songs of cabaret with a rare technical finesse, but also with a combination of vivacity, wit and tristesse — not to mention a way with a cigarette — which brings the period alive in a way few others have matched.

Her one-woman show, *Le Tango Stupéfiant*, which is at the Almeida Theatre in Islington north London, for the next seven days brings together a range of music written between 1900 and 1940 from composers and lyricists as diverse as Satie, Schoenberg, Brecht and Weill, H. Auden, and singers such as Yvette Guilbert — immortalised in the paintings of Toulouse-Lautrec — and Marie Dubas, the principal influence on Piaf.

It celebrates, says Delavault, "with irony, tenderness, and sophistication, broken hearts and mysterious drugs." The drugs in question are not only alcohol, nicotine, and "amour," but also mothballs and liquid bleach — "the painkiller of the century." Fin-de-siècle Paris, it seems, had a fine sense of humour.

Helene Delavault is the daughter of a Brittany doctor who would have been a pianist, "if my fingers had been stronger," really wanted to be an actress, and thought opera "pompous and ridicu-

lous" until she began to sing it herself. Her most celebrated performance to date was in the title role of Peter Brook's *Carmen*.

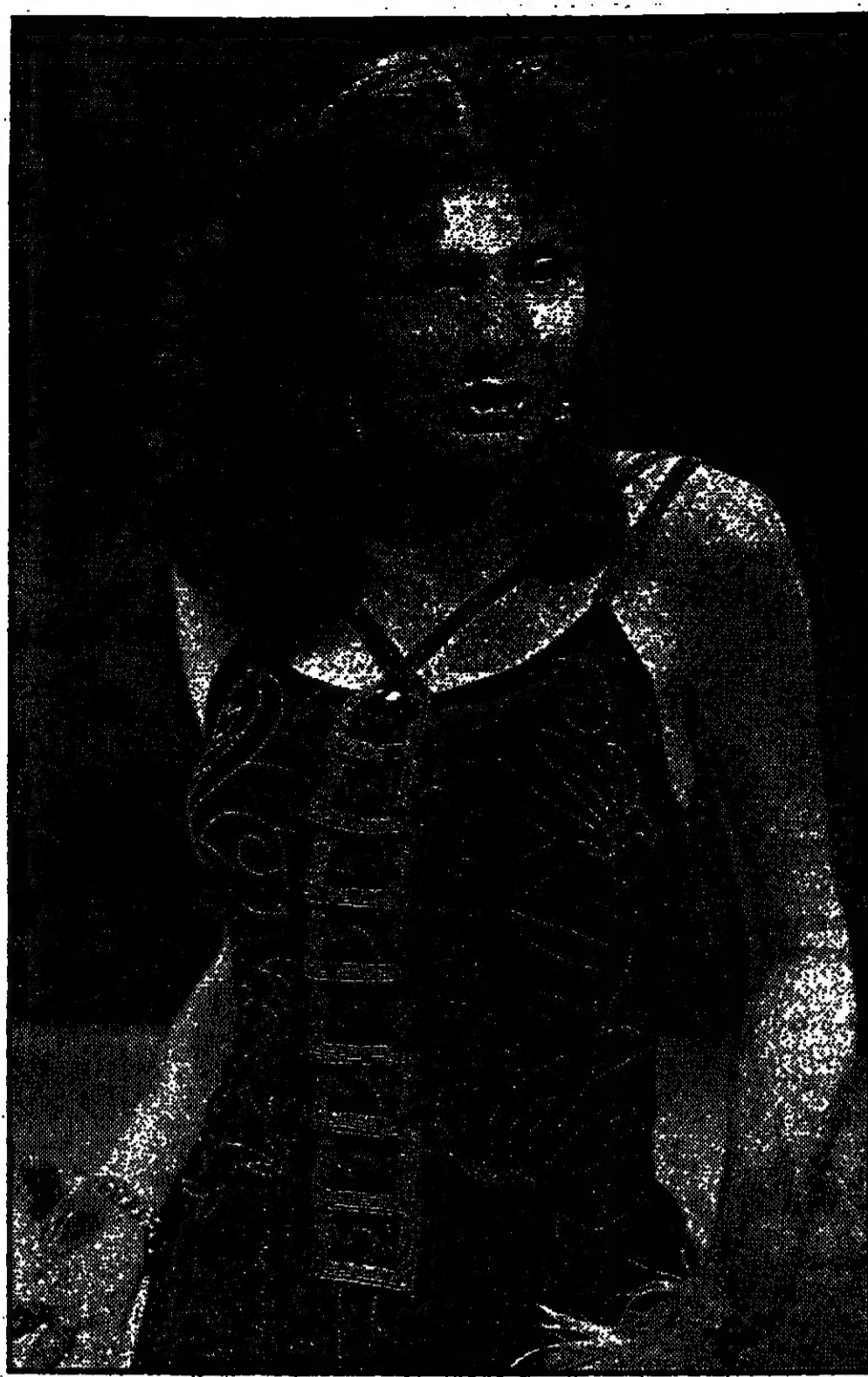
She began singing cabaret songs as a dinner party turn for friends, eventually taking her performance on stage at their instigation three years ago. Since then she has performed her show throughout Europe and in America. On the one hand, she says, it allows her to become the actress she always wanted to be — she animates the songs with the subtlest facial and bodily gestures, in lighting that is starkly effective, and her spoken introductions are a small performance in themselves. "I want to make the cabaret style alive according to my sensibility, and for the sensibilities of a modern audience," she says. "I also wanted to show the range of music of that period."

Many of the songs in her repertoire embody an innocence, a quaint naivety which, Delavault agrees, is sadly lost. "We live in a cynical age," she says plausibly. "But many are witty and sophisticated also, and they touch the heart. So much contemporary, serious, music now is intellectual only; it is for the head, not the heart. I like to sing of happiness and sadness."

Helene Delavault was growing quite rhapsodic. She is a handsome, statuesque woman, with a playful smile and a steady intelligent gaze. She is interested in Gurdjieff, and is presently reading Dostoevsky's *The Possessed*. One fancies that Toulouse-Lautrec would have gladly fallen the short distance to his knees to paint her. She creates illusions.

"What I also like very much," she confesses, "is the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber."

She shatters illusions too.



A song with a song: Helene Delavault at the Almeida. Picture by Douglas Jeffery

Nicholas de Jongh referees Alan Bates and Frances De La Tour's match at Riverside

Strindberg's hate-hate show

YOU WILL not discover sado-masochism in the most recent edition of the Shorter Oxford English dictionary, but you and one of its first modern manifestations in theatrical form as long ago as 1905 when Strindberg's *Death of a Salesman* was first performed. There, in an age of innocence, when Freudian psychoanalysis had scarcely broken its voice and feminism was still in knickers, Strindberg's sado-masochism was a contest for partners locked in mutual loathing and as a condition of terminal narcissism. The wretched duo allow power to oscillate between them and the pathology of love-hate relations is freshly assessed.

But Strindberg's bloop on the married state has, when performed as an unrepentant habit of renderings its classic status suspect. Under his microscope Edgar the artful captain and his wife, Alice, a former actress, non-stop performer, swell to grotesque elaborations of hatred and hostility. While you unacceptably accept the lack of explanation for the marital rages, as if each marriage inevitably led to this, Alice's longing to see her husband dead and Edgar's determination to see his wife enslaved, are conveyed as lurid extremes and excesses.

Keith Hacke's production attempts sensibly to conceal the play's sustained drone of melodrama by reducing its hectic manners and hysterics, and sounding notes of mere domestic ennui. And in this four-hour presentation, he has included the second milder part of the work, where the sex-war of the parents is repeated in milder form by the next generation. The perspective is therefore subtly altered.

He is also aided by the playwright Ted Whitehead, whose own plays interpret marriage as a cross between inferno and purgatory. Mr Whitehead's version of the play, based on a literal trans-

lation by Brian Rothwell, removes and smoothes away archaisms fluently, but introduces a jolting modernism. "Bollocks," "arselicking," and "an absolute shit" are all inalienably of our own time and extrude in the midst of much more decorous word-play. And Vöytek's set, while it tries to disguise the brick-framed television studio Riverside outlines, goes for faintly expressionistic touches: more door frame, and windowless vistas looking out to a semi-circular swathe of translucent, powder-blue curtain.

But the production has shrewdly accommodated itself to the casting of Alan Bates as the Captain, and the single style for which he has chosen to impersonate himself since playing *Butley*, his Bates's mooring is ill-cold, clipped calm and phlegmatic to the fingertips, with coils of silky malice endlessly spun. He gives to the sparring between the pair a sort of grotesque assurance and Prussian stiffness, but rage is no more his master than it is a spaniel's. His dance of aggression is remarkable for its mild stillness, and this may be the point for the Captain emerges in his phases of collapse and intrigue as almost childishly malevolent.

Frances De La Tour pitches Alice, initially, in some low-camp territory, communicating sulky disdain and utter superiority. At first the air of caged domesticity is most convincing. But gradually the small-scale ponderous atmosphere, which becomes positively lethargic, destroys the play's momentum and the De La Tour rises to a quavering whine. Michael Byrne as Kurt, the son, betrays the couple and epitome of modest moderation, injects further supplies of docility. By the end you are left rather numb by such low-pitched celebrations of the wild and wilful.

Pick of TV and radio

Belkis Bhagani on television and Val Arnold-Forster on radio.

Monday

World in Action (ITV 8.00 pm). A special: The Betrayal of Bhopal provides an in-depth investigation into Bhopal's tragedy and reveals a story of bad engineering, reckless cost cutting and wanton disregard for people's lives.

Bodyline (BBC2 9.00 pm). A glossy but gripping Australian mini-series — showing through the week — on the England cricket tour of Australia in 1932-33 when visiting captain Douglas Jardine introduced the notorious bodyline concept of fast bowling at the batsman rather than his bat. The intro overdoes the

Empire bit but drama settles down to unfold the lives of key players: Jardine (Hugo Weaving); the immortal Aussie batsman Donald Bradman (Gary Sweet) and Nottingham miner turned fast bowler Harold Larwood (Jim Kolt). Bradman off of scenes from *Chariots of Fire* but excellent cricket and enough human drama to keep the unsporty adjusted.

Tuesday

Independent Television: The First 30 Years (CA 10.50 pm). A pat on the back for ITV. Lord Whitelaw assesses the three decades of independent television.

First Tuesday: Goals Not Dole (ITV 10.30 pm). Profile of a Yorkshire pit village aimed during the coal strike and a probing look at the long term effects of unemployment.

Wednesday

Q&A: Simon's War (BBC2 9.30 pm). Most of my time was spent covering behind a chair as the cameras zoomed in relentlessly on Simon Weston's horrible wounds and showed close-ups of miraculous skin-graft surgery. This unsuitable message about the evils of the Falklands war is not made for wimps. A worthy repeat before an update on Simon's progress next week.

Thursday

Are You Taking The Tablets? Then Shalt Not Steal (CA 11.30 pm). Robber turned media smoothie John McVicar faces an inquisitive bunch of clean cut kids who try to give him a hard time in a lively episode discussion about the evils of stealing.

Friday

Omnibus: Studs Terkel's Chicago (BBC1 10.15 pm). Gravelled voiced, cigar smoking, charismatic Studs (real name Louis) Terkel's quirky, passionate, personalised history of Chicago — a city where his 30 years of daily

broadcasting have turned him into a national institution.

Radio

Today: The Kamikaze Ground Staff Reunion Dinner. (Radio 4, 2 pm). Repeat of Stewart Parker's witty and perceptive play about a middle-aged reunion dinner.

Tomorrow: The Autobiography Of A Really Good Man. (Radio 4, 4 pm). Frank Muir and Robert Robinson discuss this recently released Edwardian comic novel. XFD. (Radio 4, 7 pm). Start of an eight-part thriller by Len Deighton, about an alleged

secret meeting between Churchill and Hitler in 1940, with Bernard Hepton and Clifford Rose as former Nazis.

Monday: Last Friday In Jerusalem. (Radio 4, 8.15 pm). Sam Jacob's play about the effect on ordinary Israeli citizens of the changes in the political image of Israel.

Tuesday: Squatters Rights. (Radio 4, 11 pm). Alan Melville's comedy about the effect on a middle-aged couple of finding a pair of young squatters in their flat.

Wednesday: Analysis. (Radio 4, 8.45 pm). This series is going through an excellent patch: a well-researched programme on the Philippines, then Mary Goldring's judicious analysis of the role of the TGWU and, now, David Wheeler examines the two parties within the Alliance.

Tonvill & Dean

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Wed, Evening - 8.00 pm. Sat, Evening - 8.00 pm.
Thurs, Evening - 8.00 pm. Sun, Matinee - 2.00 pm.
Fri, Evening - 8.00 pm. Sun, Evening - 7.00 pm.

Evening prices (no concessions)
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SHAW THEATRE
Michael Billington

Home

THE VISIT by New York's Negro Ensemble Company to the Shaw Theatre with Sam Williams' *Home* is their first to London in sixteen years. I can't help wishing they had chosen a tougher, stronger piece than this Our Town-like hymn to the virtues of American rural life. But, though the writing is often folksy, this 90-minute piece (a 1980 Tony Award nominee) is superbly acted by its cast of three.

It belongs squarely to the front-porch rocking-chair school of American drama. Its anecdotal orphaned hero, Cephus Miles, is brought up on the land ("When you hold a plant, you can hear the heartbeat of God") in Cross Roads, North Carolina. He steers us through his early life of crap-shooting in the segregated, graveyard, tentative happy love-making with Patti Mae, taking over the farm on the death of Gramps.

Refusing to fight in Vietnam brings him five bitter years in the slammer. Reviled for spitting on the flag, he takes off the wicked city where he falls foul of fast women and hard-faced employers and becomes a footloose alien. But finally, and happily, it is back to the farm redeemed for him by his childhood sweetheart who is awaiting there to make him pecan pie.

Mr Williams crams 20 years of a life into a short space and, along the way, he makes some telling points about the changes in America: witness the tautic shift in attitude towards Vietnam and the hero's shock on returning to Cross Roads to find the rest-rooms are no longer segregated.

But, though the piece has the whimsical charm of a fable, it relies too heavily (a bit like Peter Weir's *Witness*) on the contrast between the idyllic country and the sinful city. Cross Roads, with its guilt-inducing Bible-punchers, doesn't strike me as all that seductive; and there is slightly more, even to American urban life, than pushers, gold-diggers and case-workers.



S. Epitha Merckerson, Samuel L. Jackson, and Elaine Graham in *Home*. Picture by Douglas Jeffery

that moves, when it does move, at a leisurely pace, over what Crumb describes as a comic drone; a long-held bass B flat.

Crumb uses his outside orchestra knowingly and to picturesque effect with much exotic percussion, fragmented woodwind solos in the French post-Romantic manner deployed against diaphanous backgrounds, with a few powerful and primitive tutts to shock us out of the contemplative mood.

The music with its wisps and fragments and long periods of inactivity might well have been written to accompany a nature film in which lizards and other unlikely animals appear for a few seconds before vanishing behind the nearest exotic plant; but the landscape is a little too bare to sustain interest.

The orchestra, who had been playing as if were under their breaths for much of this work, got down to the real business of the evening in Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Mahler's line of approach is vigorous, sometimes to the point of coarsening and confusing sounds, unmannered and powerfully expressive. Conductor and orchestra, far from standing back to admire the effects they are producing, hurl themselves almost recklessly into the fray.

But this was also a performance of strong inner discipline, the orchestra functioning as a single organism with just one mind of its own.

QEH

Michael John White

ECO

premieres

CHARM is a dirty word in modern music, and I don't doubt that Howard Blake's clarinet concerto — premiered at this concert by its dedicatee, Thea King — will get a rough shoving from the critical establishment. It certainly isn't a work of momentous substance; picture-book writing mostly, more televisual than technically demanding, and with a formalistic tonality that steers a safe course between G minor at both ends.

But taken on its own terms, the concerto did have charm; and I'm afraid I liked its easy lyricism and its flow of self-motivating rhythmic figures strung across insistent tonic pedal notes or ostinatos in the lower strings. It frequently recalled the little train that chugs through one of Villa-Lobos's *Bachianas Brasileiras*; and no harm in that.

I also liked the other premier in the concert, a Concerto for Clarinet and Piano by the young composer Halstead, the ECO's principal horn. With barely concealed romantic tendencies it owed more to the spirit of Samuel Barber than the acknowledged quote (from *Summer Music*) in its first movement: but no harm in that either. The writing, with particular richness in the string textures, was highly accomplished and perhaps more searching than the Blake piece in the sense that it didn't shy at the full hand at a single sitting, although the score had a similar openness and immediacy of attraction.

In both cases, the ECO gave smooth, well-disposed performances. Howard Blake conducted his own work, but Halstead stayed behind his music stand leaving the direction of the Concerto Elegiac to Edward Downes, who took the rest of the programme: Stravinsky's *Dumbarton Oaks* and Schubert's *Nacht*.

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WEEK-END PEOPLE



Above: CHARLIE and beaver. Top: MIGWE on Stagg River

Stuart Wavell in Canada's sub-Arctic finds a culture under siege from animal rights campaigners

The fur North

THE BLACK bear came for Charlie in the early morning. The old Indian usually took the precaution of hanging his bag of furs over a deep cleft in the rock which formed a natural trap and refrigerator. But that night's freshly skinned muskrat pelts, drying in his tent, sent a message on the wind.

Charlie was jumpy. He had been alone for a month, working the myriad creeks and lakes off the Stagg River in his canoe. He had come overland by Ski-doo, hauling his large canvas tent, move-rides, traps, axes and skinning gear to this granite promontory overlooking the broad river and its fringe of sub-Arctic muskies.

The Dogrib Indians of Canada's Northwest Territories do not hunt bear, although the fur can legitimately fetch \$300. Bears go, however, hunt Dogrib. Two years ago Charlie's new tent was ripped apart twice by 300lb of marauding hunger. He had seen canoes splintered because they contained otter, and fires scattered in the grab for smoked caribou meat.

The spring hunt for muskrat and beaver is a family affair, but this time he left his wife at home and was missing her badly. Now he slept with a loaded

In attempting to reach the lake by boat we knew that upriver from Charlie's camp the river was frozen for five miles. We would have to smash through it or push the boat across.

After the river's bitter cold, Charlie's tent was unbearable bliss. His stove threatened to melt our rubber boots. Spruce boughs and blankets carpeted the floor. Tea brewed. A dozen muskrat pelts, pulled fur-side inside over wooden blades, hung from the main beam. In the corner Joe Migwe's radio began to chatter. Charlie's English was non-existent and Joe's sketchy (their own language is a branch of the North Athapaskan tongue) so Moose Rabesca, a trapper and guide who had volunteered for this trip, translated.

Three Dogrib communities had called us, Moose said. "They say it is good that you are writing this down from our own mouths. They say give it your best shot. All people round here are concerned that you make it back safely with the truth to the Queen's land."

In summer the sun rolls around heaven all day in these latitudes, but in springtime there are two hours of darkness and we tried to make the best of it. I noticed that none of the Indians' sleeping bags was zipped up, and that Charlie's Winchester was to hand. Then the black rock of sleep rolled over us. Tomorrow we would cross the ice.

I HAD travelled 200 years in a couple of days. The journey had begun in Yellowknife, the Territories' capital on the Great Slave Lake which became a boom town overnight when gold was discovered there in 1934. Mining and government still make it tick. Two images prevail: the whites with their neat cedar homes, gas barbecues and natty micro-buses; and the chequered Indians milling outside the Trapsline Bar.

Seventy miles by pick-up truck along the Great Slave Highway, a clay road which sags where the permafrost has melted, is Fort Rae. This sprawl of wooden huts is the region's fur centre and contains the largest grouping of Dogrib Indians (1,400) in the Northwest Territories.

In both towns I spoke to chiefs, development officers, priests and politicians. I also met trappers on the Stagg River. They were unanimous in the belief that Greenpeace's anti-fur campaign would be disastrous for the Dogrib and sections of the Chipewyan, Slave, Hare and Loucheux Bands with whom they have combined as the Dene (People) Nation.

The Dogrib are heavily dependent on trapping and hunting for food. Fresh fish and meat is the staple diet in Fort Rae. If bought in local stores, this would cost the equivalent of \$7,000 per household. Store prices are astronomical, boosted by the 950-mile road haul from Edmonton in Alberta. Seventy per cent of the town's almost exclusive Dogrib population are on welfare of \$350-\$400 a month. Heavy drinking is endemic, particularly among the caribou, are still used for winter clothing. The sale of furs accounts for a paltry average income of \$1,500 a year.

The Dogrib people are neither rich nor hunting animals to extinction. Their history in the past 30,000 years shows an existence finely tuned to the cycle of animals. They may now use Ski-dos and planes that they can ill afford to reach the caribou and white foxes in the tundra beyond the treeline 100 miles to the north, but these do not mitigate the hardships of surviving temperatures of minus 55 deg F, blizzards and white-outs for weeks on end.

The fur threat—or "anti-harvesting movement"—is not simply a localised issue. The Dene Nation and Inuit form almost two-thirds of the 50,000 popula-

tion of the Northwest Territories—a unique majority in Canada. Stung by the influx of Southerners intent on exploiting the new Eldorado, they have mounted an impressive programme of self-help demanding rights to 450,000 sq miles, and self-government.

Many observers interpret the Canadian Government's silence on the fur issue as a desire to see the Dene weakened before serious land negotiations begin. The Dogrib laughed derisively when I repeated the words of Greenpeace's anti-fur campaign officer, Mark Glover, that the Canadian Government has a responsibility to provide native people with alternative employment.

Mindful of the campaign which closed down the sealing industry, the Dene are not falling over for Greenpeace or anyone else. Last year they formed Indigenous Survival International with aboriginal groups in Greenland and Alaska to counter what they regard as the cynical manipulation of European and American sentiment.

PERMAFROST crept into our bones as the stove died. Snow—winter spitting from its grave—postponed our trip. Inside the tent the Indians began skinning muskrats with sharp Japanese kitchen knives. Charlie has something to declare.

"In the old days, before the white man came, we went up to the Barrenlands (tundra) for caribou. There was no fur trade then. You had to keep the birch bark dry inside your caribou trousers. You struck a flint with a stone until the birch bark glows. You have to blow it a long time. Then you have to pass the flame to the people behind you."

"Grandfather went through hard times, but he must have had a strong faith. It's similar to what we do now. I have never worked for the white man. I will go on trapping until I die."

Charlie spoke of the wolf pack that stole lynx from his trapline, of frostbite that catches you unawares, of the need to sink fishing poles through the ice in order to feed the sled dogs. And of his great ancestor Edso, whose oratory brought peace between the Dogrib and the Chipewyan.

He glanced at his bag of 300 muskrat furs worth perhaps \$400 (\$230) for a month's work. "The costs go up all the time and the fur prices go down," he said. "A good Ski-doo now costs \$3,500 (\$2,000). We are making nothing out of it. There is nothing in the bank. We are still living on rocks. In Rae I was eating white man's food. That's junk. I came out here to eat fresh meat."

That night we went hunting in the boat. Within three minutes Joe brought down two ducks with a blast from his 12-bore. Three 22 Brownings reaped a steady harvest of muskrat, each one shot by a tap from an ear. The boat was a luxury for my benefit, but the Dogrib were engaged in business, not sport.

In the next few days the pattern was repeated. Each hunter came into his own dog sled by Joe's silent gestures. Long periods of stillness were broken by the outboard motor's sudden howl. Once, Moose heard a beaver slapping the water in an adjoining lake. Ashore, he lured muskrat to the bank with a stent humming from pursed lips.

In the midnight glow of the last day, Joe, seated in his canoe, beckoned us to the shore. A large bear cub, emitting rasping pants, was descending a spruce tree. It was 100 yards from the fire we had made the previous night. The implications unfurled. We edged back into the stream.



ERASMUS: this end of the wedge

The counter attack

"WE'RE trying to head the animal rights movement off at the pass," said George Erasmus, Dene representative on Indigenous Survival International, which last week secured an undertaking from Greenpeace to talk in Greenland.

"When you put it all together, they are picking the weak spots and building on them. They used the emotive issue of the killing of seal pups to shut down the whole seal hunt. That drastically affected the culture of native people."

"Now they are doing the same thing

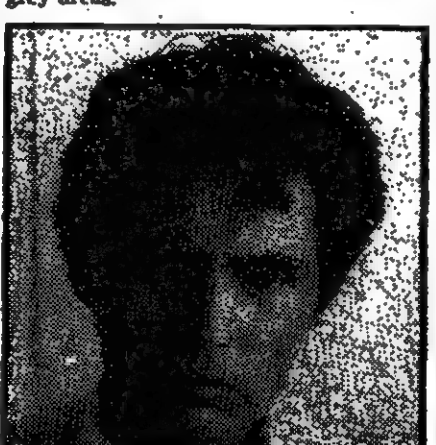
with fur—the concept of cruelty to animals caught in the leg trap. Through that one crack in the wall they are going to try and ban all fur in Europe. Our belief is that once they have achieved that they will move on to slaughterhouses."

He would like to see aboriginal trappers subsidised along the lines of an agreement in northern Quebec which guarantees incomes for people living on the land. He pointed out that government, oil and mining companies subsidise their employees in NWT by \$450 a month.

THE hypocrisy of European righteousness angers Steve Kakwi, president of the Dene Nation. "Here's a people who totally polluted their rivers, destroyed their wildlife and virtually wiped everyone off the face of the world in their wars, telling us that we are uncivilised. We have a hard enough time dealing with the Canadian Government."

"You can't make the world perfect overnight. You can't ban cars because they pollute. You need a period of transition. But the animal rights movements have been saying 'No discussion, no dialogue.'"

Cindy Gilday, communications coordinator of the Office of the Dene Nation in Yellowknife, is in the forefront of the propaganda counter-attack. She is blunt. "We thought Greenpeace were the hope for the world in their concern for the environment, animals, and their Indian brothers. Now they are attacking our way of life. We either work together or we are against each other. There are no grey areas."



RABESCA: bizarre outcome of prophecy

The Chief

A PROPHET told Joe Rabesca that one day he would become chief of the first Dogrib communities. He had been a trapper all his life and was now a councillor, but this news came as a surprise. The medicine man cautioned that he must overcome an inevitable temptation to resign. "Before this last fall I am going to die," he added.

The old man died three days later, and Rabesca (38) is in his third year as chief. He told me this story in his office at the Edso-Rae Development Corporation, a large modern building which dominates the Dogrib township of Fort Rae. From another source, he heard the bizarre outcome of the prophecy.

Rabesca had complained of losing his strength and wanted to resign. Doctors counselled rest. Then two medicine men examined him and found that he was suffering from a spell cast by an apprentice shaman. They decided to return the curse to its source, within six months the apprentice had died from cancer.

Unlike some of the urban Indians in Yellowknife, Rabesca has kept a foot in each world. I met him later at his spring camp in the bush, where his father Jimmy spoke of the days when medicine men could control the minds of caribou and shoot a willow arrow with more accuracy than a gun.

The Dene have a high degree of autonomy in Fort Rae. "No one can move without their say-so," I was told. The corporation operates a Dene store which buys fur at the fairest prices. It can manage, although it cannot compete with Hudson's Bay. The Dene have their own administrative offices and lease space to the Northwest Territories Government.

Their economic development unit is creating 75 jobs a year in the region. A Dene forest fire service, started in 1981, had just sent eight firemen to train in rappelling from helicopters. This winter the Dene have a contract to construct and maintain 240 km of winter roads across muskox and lakes.

One of Rabesca's worries is the planned exploitation of oil, gas and minerals, about which the Dene are seldom consulted. They gave their consent to a pipeline along the Mackenzie River from Norman Wells in the North to Alberta in the South, but boycotted this month's opening ceremony after guarantees of participation and economic benefits failed to materialise.

Fifted Dene have died of cancer in recent years after trapping near the Rae Rock uranium mine closed in 1957. The area has been put out of bounds, but trapping continues. Five Dogrib now have cancer in Fort Rae. The mine's waters drain into the Great Slave Lake beside the town.

Another concern is the rate of alcoholism. Dene people don't know how to handle it, he said. "I tell them what alcohol can do. I say there's millions of good things you can do."

He described the most important hunt of the year. "In the fall, when the caribou are moving as herds, I would send hunters about 400 miles by plane to the Barrenlands in the North-east. We would send a group of 50 people, sometimes 100. We would shoot caribou and bring them back."

"Let me tell you, it gets pretty cold up there. In the old days I couldn't see the dogs for my own breath. Blood would freeze on your knife. People still trap like that. Sometimes you would go without a tent or blankets for days. People would walk hundreds of miles."

Of the anti-fur movement he commented: "If Greenpeace kills the fur industry there will be nothing left for our people."

Hudson's Bay Company

The fur trader

THIS month the Canadian fur industry reported record profits for the year. It announced that the European slump had been more than offset by sales to the United States and a burgeoning Japanese market. However, only 12 per cent of these furs are trapped by native people. The rest are farmed. Greenpeace told me that worried London importers were thinking of abandoning wild furs.

Hans Ravenshorst is manager of the disappointingly tame Hudson's Bay store in Fort Rae—a kind of Marks & Sparks which also sells guns, paddles and outboard motors. Furs are bought over the counter. It is a larger set-up than the two local competitors and the group's resources mean that it can store furs until auction prices are favourable.

A newcomer from the South, Ravenshorst refused to discuss specific prices, citing company policy, but gave me a broad picture. Beaver was down owing to an extra tax in France. Muskrat was being deserted by Germans, the biggest buyers. Sable and lynx prices were up. Farmed foxes were fetching the highest sums: the furs could be matched exactly.

"A lot of people don't understand that the native people eat the meat," he said. "It's part of their diet. Even if the fur was worth nothing they would probably shoot them anyway."



POCHAT: taught by Dene

The priests

THE first Roman Catholic baptisms of Dogrib occurred in 1958. Within a decade conversion was complete. Their beliefs still centre on the concept of "medicine"—power given to mankind by animal spirits, but these have mixed with the Christian faith. The Dene's year revolves around worship at Easter, July and Christmas, when hunters return from the bush for drum dances, hand games and feasts. The declining Catholic clergy now takes a more tolerant line.

Father Jean Pochat, one of Fort Rae's two priests, was talking the church bell as I arrived. Every dog in town began to howl. "I came as a missionary determined to convert the pagans," he said. "I learned a lot more than I taught. The philosophers divided everything into the spiritual and the physical, whereas the Dene believe in the oneness of a person. Everything has a spirit—the sun, the land, the animals, the storm and the wind."

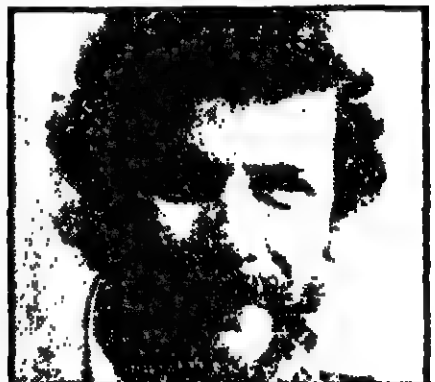
He has witnessed dozens of examples of precognition. "As a white man I don't believe it. But it works within the Dene system. I have stopped questioning it."

THE outspokenness of Father Rene Fumoleau has not endeared him to his bishop at Fort Smith. The history of aboriginal people in Canada, states this gentle man, is one of "outright murder in a few places, but most a history of subjugation, paternalism, assimilation, dependence and dehumanisation. What-

ever the policy of the Territorial government is called, its goal has been to destroy the Dene."

Now living in Yellowknife, he has worked among the Dene for 31 years. "They are a very spiritual people. They have a great faith in the land and in God. If the Dene are bouncing back after 300 years of colonisation it's a sign of their strength. Time is on their side."

The white trapper



MAGRUM: killing is a way of life

"NATURE is cruel," said Warren Magrum, (35), who has trapped fulltime for the past 10 years. He was responding to Greenpeace's claims. "When a pack of wolves get hold of a caribou they start eating it while it's still alive. It's a slow, agonising death."

What about the leg-trap? He usually runs a 250-mile trapline, using 300 metal traps. "I am not going to say that trapping isn't cruel, but there are other things in the world that are crueler. The small animals are generally frozen to death by the time I come along. It's probably most cruel for wolves and lynx. But once the circulation is stopped they probably don't feel anything."

"Elsewhere, people are so far removed from killing. Here killing is a way of life. We kill an animal, butcher it and eat it. I don't go trapping because I enjoy killing animals. It's a way to feed my family."

Until last year he used a nine-dog team. He finds the Ski-doo much faster, but it cost him more than \$1,000 in petrol over 2½ months.

Income tax finally trapped him. "The best we ever did was \$10,000 in four months. It's not great money. You need a month to prepare and have to feed the dogs all year. He is moving to Bay River to start the region's first fox farm."

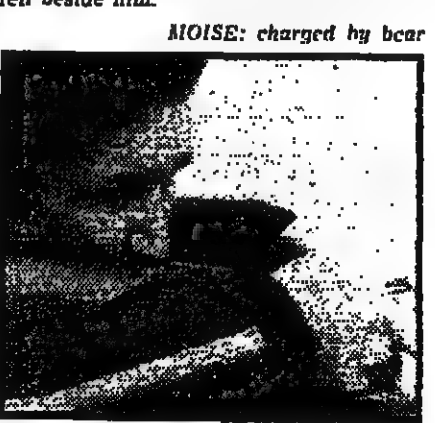
The hunters

THE speed and perception of Dogrib hunters makes the outsider feel pretty clumsy. As a team they work silently, rarely requiring more than a gesture. They sometimes miss their targets but I never saw them make a mistake in our frequently precarious undertakings. Their skill comes from early training. Dogrib children are handling guns by the age of seven. At 13 or 14 they kill their first caribou.

In any chain of command Joe Migwe (58) would be the top link. Built like a bear, he carried a lifetime of experience in his eyes. He would often paddle ahead of us in his canoe, barely breaking his stroke to fire. Invariably his tally exceeded everyone else's.

A former regional chief who now occupies a position in the wildlife department, he is disturbed by what he sees happening to the Dene. "You cannot say the Government is doing a good job. They're poisoning everything. Why can't they give us a hand to pay back what they have done to our people?"

Moose Rabesca (37), my interpreter, has been a guide for four years, but has none of his skill. He recalled his closest shave. "I was walking through the bush one day with two guests when I saw a grizzly. It was big, about 10 feet, and it had two cubs. It came after me, growling. My rifle was stuck in its caribou cover, which shrank in the rain. My companion turned and fired without aiming. It hit him in the forehead. The bear fell beside him."



MOOSE: charged by bear

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

1960

JUNE: Bloemfontein. May 31, Dr Verwoerd released, a white dove today as a symbol to the world of the peace and prosperity which he said South Africa wished the world. But the bird he tossed into the air before a vast crowd here failed to open its

wings and fell to the ground in front of the Premier. Embarrassed officials poked and prodded the dove, but it steadfastly refused to fly. Finally, someone carried it away through the crowd.

The Prime Minister, who spoke at the end of the Jubilee celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the South African Union, said that "a great white nation" must be devoted to South Africa. The white race was threatened not only in Africa but also in Europe and America, he said, adding: "Christi-

ty is threatened in Africa now more than anywhere else." JUNE 2: Francis Boyd, Political Correspondent, Mr. Heath's recent announcement that he was unlikely to stand for Parliament at another election has compelled even the more staid and substantial Conservative back-benchers to wonder what will happen when Mr. Macmillan retires from the office of Prime Minister. Mr. Amory has certainly been regarded, consciously or unconsciously, by some Tories as a useful man in reserve.

"It would be a pity if 'Derry' Amory were to go," a Tory told me last week. "He's a man with roots. He's got a life and interests outside his place. We've got plenty of clever chaps in the Government, but clever chaps without roots could be dangerous." The member who was talking to me placed Iain Macleod, for example, among the "clever chaps"; and of the younger members of the Government, Mr. Edward Heath, Minister of Labour and formerly Conservative Chief Whip, seems to be earning the strongest reputation for "soundness." Mr. Heath is sound because

he has identified his interest with loyalty to the party organisation.

JUNE 3: Moscow. June 2. More than a thousand people—nearly half of them students—walked in single file for a last glimpse of Boris Pasternak, the Russian poet and novelist, today before the funeral near Moscow. However, neither the Government nor the Writers' Union was represented at the service.

JUNE 4: An attempt to introduce English salmon to

the isolated Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic has failed. The plea for salmon came from Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, Governor of the islands, and 60,000 salmon eggs—laid in Lancashire—were sent from Southampton by sea.

The fisheries department of the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that most of the eggs survived the sea trip, but on the islands they began to die at the rate of 1,000 a day. Only a few lived long enough to hatch, and even these little fish did not survive. The reason is not known.

BIRTHDAYS

TODAY: Pat Boone, singer, actor, 51; William editor, the Daily Telegraph, 72; Nelson Riddle, band-leader, arranger, 64; Gerald Scarfe, cartoonist. TOMORROW: Mark Elder, music director, English National Opera, 38; Johnny Speight, television script-writer, 65. MONDAY: Tony Curtis, actor, 60; William Douglas Home, playwright, 73; Hale Irwin, golfer, 40; Michael Jaffe, director, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 62. TUESDAY: Bob Champion,

jockey turned trainer, 37; Sir Christopher Cockerell, inventor of the Hovercraft, 73; Andrea Jaeger, tennis player, 20.

WEDNESDAY: Melba Anderson, singer, 45; Chris Fennegan, boxer, 41; David Hare, playwright, 38; Julian Hosking, ballet dancer, 32. THURSDAY: Sir Isaiah Berlin, OM, philosopher, 76; Lord Carrington, secretary-general, Nato, 65; Dame Ninette de Valois, founder of the Royal Ballet, 87. FRIDAY: Pietro Annigoni, painter, 75; James Ivory, film director, 57; Tom Jones, singer, 45; Jaime Laredo, violinist, 44;

One European order that has to be met

Quickly, voluntarily and properly, Britain is learning the lessons of the shame and humiliation in Brussels. There have, though, been other lessons from Europe this week about the way that we conduct our affairs. These lessons have not provoked instant ministerial words or action. Last Tuesday, the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights ruled against the United Kingdom's immigration policy which prevents foreign husbands from joining their wives in this country. The Strasbourg judgment raises two important issues. The first is the substantive immigration rule which discriminates between the rights of foreign wives and foreign husbands. The second, less noticed at the time but potentially much further reaching, is the court's ruling that this country must henceforward provide domestic constitutional remedies for individuals who wish to challenge delegated or administrative rules made by the government departments. European Court judgments are binding on the United Kingdom. But, in contrast to its reaction to football violence, the Government has avoided any tone of contrition in response to Strasbourg. The Home Office ministers, Mr Leon Brittan and Mr David Waddington, have been defiant, hinting that the British show will go on as much as before, with only the minimum changes to keep the UK on the right side of the law.

Nobody should be surprised at this weasel instinct. Every time that Britain has been clobbered in Strasbourg — and that is now 12 times, a higher score than any other country — the same approach has been followed. As it happens, Parliament will next week be debating a classic of this parsimonious genre. On Tuesday, the Education (Corporal Punishment) Bill reaches its House of Lords committee stage. This Bill will enable parents to choose whether their children can be exempted from corporal punishment at school. It follows three years after a Strasbourg ruling on two Scottish cases dating, if you please, from 1974 and 1976. And it is not merely the slowness of the response that this Bill embodies. It is the fact that the Bill fails to outlaw corporal punishment itself, even though the Isle of Man birching case of 1978 almost certainly showed that educational corporal punishment also contravenes the European Convention on Human Rights, and even though some 30 other cases involving school beatings are currently in the European judicial pipeline. So there have an opportunity on Tuesday to put another televised feather in their legislative cap by transforming this grudging measure into the abolitionist bill which the government should, long ago, have introduced.

As a form of legal redress of positively Jarndyce-like proportions, Britain's current procedural relationship to the European court takes some beating. The immigration and corporal punishment examples illustrate just how unsatisfactory that system has become. Britain remains the principal defendant at Strasbourg because no steps have been taken to provide effective domestic remedies and human rights yardsticks within our legal systems. After the immigration ruling, that need is more pressing than it has ever been. The Strasbourg court has instructed Britain to bring the European Convention in from the outfield, and put it in to a close catching position. The obvious and right thing for the Government to do, therefore, is to incorporate the convention into domestic law. This is a move which has often been supported — including, at various times, by such as Lord Hailsham, Mr Brittan and Sir Michael Havers. But governments have repeatedly fumbled the decision, partly because Mrs Thatcher is vehemently opposed. Today, though, the imperatives of compliance with Strasbourg give the subject fresh urgency. And with Lord Scarman also promising to introduce an autumn private member's Bill incorporating the convention, the issue cannot be delayed much longer. The Government should make a virtue of necessity and accept that Europe has got it right on this one too.

Greece at the crossroads

The Greek electorate will tomorrow pass judgment upon four years of socialist rule. After a bitterly fought campaign, the nation goes to the polls split down the middle. If Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu survives in office it will be by the narrowest of margins and, perhaps, with the support of a distinctly unregenerate Communist Party. At the level of rhetoric the Pasok (Socialist) Party is the most left wing or neutrally inclined ever to govern a nation which retains its membership both of Nato and the Common Market. And there is the rub when you come to assess the Pasok record. When the tumult and the shouting dies away, a pragmatic Greece is still in Nato and still in the Market.

Three months ago the complaint against Mr Papandreu, both from the main opposition party, the conservative New Democracy, and from the Communist left, was that Pasok was all sound and fury. But the sound and fury signified precious little. Since when the centre right President Karamanlis has been removed from office under dubious constitutional procedures, the government has confirmed its intention of creating great agricultural co-operatives (conservation in the ranks of EEC subsidised peasants) and Papandreu has insisted that American weapons will be closed by 1988 and that nuclear weapons, if any there be, on Greek soil will go too. The most convincing explanation for this lurch to the left is that party bureaucrats told him that his greatest danger lay with disaffected socialists moving left.

By Monday evening it will be clear whether that gamble has paid off. Papandreu continues to project Pasok as the party of "change" — the ambiguous slogan under which he swept to power in 1981. It is a safe enough bet that most Greeks recognise the need for change. The issue for debate is whether Pasok still represents that urge. On the international front — to the distress of the United States and some European governments — it probably does and the West would be well advised to accept the fact. Viewed from abroad, Pasok's foreign policy may look erratic and opportunistic. At home it remains surprisingly popular as a way of saying to the West: 'You don't have Greece to shove around any more. Greeks believe they have been taken for granted for half a century and their legitimate worries about Turkey ignored. A bit of boat rocking does not come amiss. Reforms in the field of health, welfare, pensions, education, civil and women's rights are welcomed and have not yet run their course. The economy in contrast, is rocky. Unemployment is up, inflation remains high and the urban proletariat is restless. Even so, economic Thatcherism, courtesy of New Democracy, is not an obviously appealing answer.

In the ultimate the election will turn on whether the marginal voter sees Papandreu as a dangerous adventurer whose heart is well to the left of centre or as a pragmatic politician with an eye on the main chance for Greece as well as for his party. Either way Greece (and the West) will be best served by a clear and uncontented result. A hung Parliament would place genuine strains upon a still shallow-rooted democracy in an area continuing volatility.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rampages in the age of individualism's dead end

Sir, — It would be impossible, of course, to persuade Mrs Thatcher that she and her philosophy are the source and origin of soccer violence; but they are. Now, in the late 20th century, we live in the current dead end of the age of individualism, just as our ancestors in the 18th century lived in the corrupt dead end of the age of Mediocrity.

As long ago, as in 1938 in what has been described as the most anthologised sociological article ever printed, Robert Merton, *doyen of American sociology*, wrote: "It is only when a system of cultural values exists, virtually above all else, certain common symbols of success for the population at large while its social structure rigorously restricts access to the approved modes of acquiring these symbols for a considerable part of the same population, that antisocial behaviour ensues on a considerable scale."

These goals are held to transcend class lines, yet the actual organisation of society is such that there exists class differentials in the accessibility of these common success symbols. Frustration and thwarted aspiration lead to a search for avenues of escape from a culturally induced intolerable situation.

These words were quoted in full by Ashley Montagu in *Man in Progress* (Mentor Books, 1961); and he added: "The avenue of escape is almost always the same, namely, through aggression. The object to which that aggressiveness may attach itself is culturally determined by what is rendered culturally available."

If anyone wants a name for the age to which we are now directed if we

would save any sort of decency in our social life, I would suggest "the age of Wholism." One of the linguistic disasters of our century was that Jan Smuts, in proposing the same idea in 1929, wanted a Greek to coin the word "Hlism" which makes it sad to have a dead word to describe a living necessity. Yours (Sir) Richard Ackland, College, Broadclyst, Exeter.

Sir, — Some of the comment and diatribe of politicians, journalists, and commentators on the Brussels tragedy is as sickening as the events themselves.

The most insane and stupid correlations of football and football clubs, with hooliganism continue. How can anyone sensibly blame a sport for mass violence? It is only in recent years that football, which has been a mass spectator sport for the whole of this century, has been accompanied by "football hooliganism," at least on any scale.

Whatever the precise sequence of events in Brussels, the tragedy is just one instance. Looked at as a whole, the connection between unemployment and football hooliganism are not just idle speculation.

Raman Dunphy, the former Manchester and Reading Town player, pointed this out 10 years ago when he asked who had created the large pool of unemployed labour in his major towns and cities. "Ten years ago there were no Manchester, Merseyside, Middlesbrough, United, and Millwall in the East End of London — both areas of very high unemployment among the unskilled — particularly were synonymous with hooliganism."



The real hooligans, said Dunphy, are not the innocent supporters of a humble ball game, but the politicians and industrialists whose policies result in unemployment, and the loss of identity that goes along with it.

Only a planned economy with full employment and self-esteem for everyone can solve this social problem. The attitudes of Westminster and the Government are worse than ironic: they are those of the jungle, and of very dishonest "animals" indeed. — Yours sincerely, Steve Phil, 24 The Nook, Crookmoor, Sheffield.

Sir, — Twenty years ago, as a young football fan, I think I witnessed the end of an era.

I remember the people around me were generally men, our fathers and uncles. There was no segregation and I used to listen to and enjoy the exchanges of witty banter between working-class Brummies, Scousers, Londoners, and all sorts of others.

But I didn't notice that our uncles and fathers in their flat caps and with their witty lines of chat were missing. I still stand in the same spot where my uncle and I once chatted with a couple of Cardiff fans about the merits of each team. We didn't want to thump each other. It is sad to think that if a Cardiff fan was careless enough to voice any opinion today in that same spot on

the terraces, he would need hospital attention. Now I have seen the purple faces of people crushed to death while watching our beloved game. I don't think I can ever see free enough to watch another match. — Yours faithfully, Tony Lennax, The Cottage, High Street, Bewdley, Worcestershire.

Sir, — The violence in Brussels was, of course, appalling. What was much more terrifying, watching the "experts" debating on television, was the utter complexity of these people.

Groping desperately to find a scapegoat among the organisers or police in Belgium is outrageous, making noises about punishing the perpetrators is futile; what punishment for 40 innocent people would Dorel Hation consider appropriate? Blaming inner-city deprivation is pathetic. On that basis we would have wiped each other out by the end of the Victorian era. Laying the blame at the feet of the "one per cent" of football fans completely ducks the issue.

The truth is that as a nation we have completely failed, over at least two generations, to instill in our children the basic fundamental prerequisites for coexistence within society.

For the last few years I have lived on a countryside. The level of ignorance, slovenliness, and downright animal behaviour are staggering. In some part of this city the lack of respect for fellow human beings is almost primal, and for other people's property, total.

Of course large-scale unemployment is a problem; the problem is that, on a large

scale, these people are unemployable. Of course there are endless exceptions to this. Of course one can always say that the majority of people are good.

The truth is that the majority of people keep their heads down, mind their own business, do not want to get involved. It is very unfashionable to show concern, or to succeed by effort where they will do, as to suggest co-operation with the police in the enforcement of law and order. Mention concepts like these and one is accused, indeed feels guilty of, being "fascist".

It feels sacrilegious to suggest that this may have a lot to do with our liberal, modern approach to education. I want to be convinced that I am wrong. I want to believe that our skilled educators know what they are about. I want to think that the destruction of the old regime was for the best.

I only hope the defenders of the contemporary educational system do not attempt to tell me that the blame lies with the parents, almost afraid to mention that the parents of today's vandals are also the product of our comprehensive, non-compulsive, neo-corporal-punishment philosophy.

It is one of the less endearing characteristics of this country that we dislike being told that we are wrong. But in this case, our position is indefensible. For a long time we were the laughing stock of Europe. They are not laughing any more.

I suggest we look long and hard at the way they have been treating us, and try to see how we have sunk so low. — Yours faithfully, John Beaumont, Wyest Kirby, Wirral, Merseyside.

The delight of discovering a genius

Sir, — For a "cool look" Waldemar Januszczak's piece (Arts Guardian, May 30) about the Harold Shapinsky show is unusually heated and abusive.

I have nothing to gain from trying to "force" Shapinsky into prominence. I wrote, as a journalist, to report on a well-founded and delightful story.

Such terms as "genius," "undiscovered genius," etc., occur nowhere in anything I wrote. I went to some lengths, in my view, not to express my own opinion but rather to report on the enthusiasms of others.

For Shapinsky's work has in recent months attracted high praise from — among others — Ronald Alley, the keeper of the Tate Gallery's modern collection (Mr Januszczak's "minor official"); Norbert Lynton, Professor of Art History at Sussex University; Dean Anderson at the Smithsonian in Washington; the Ludwig Museum in Cologne and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam; to say nothing of one of the grand old men of abstract expressionism, Motherwell himself.

It is clearly beyond my expertise to know whether Mr Januszczak is, or is not, a follower of fashion. But perhaps he will think twice before calling people careless, ignorant, opportunistic, and manipulative in future. Such pigeons have a way of coming home to roost. — Yours Saiman Rashide, 17 Highbury Hill, London N6.

Sir, — Your art critic's summary of my article on Harold Shapinsky in *Time Out* is a little tricky. He produces not a single quote and distorts the entire meaning of what I wrote.

I stressed the transformation of works of art into simple commodities, attacked the gallery system, and pointed out how genuine talents were being squashed by the market.

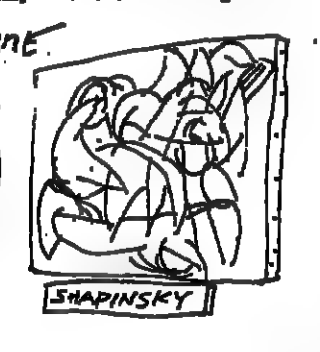
The whole point about the discovery is that he was bypassed by the market for 40 years. Any journalist, regardless of his/her art credentials — would find such a story fascinating.

I like Shapinsky's work. I think some of it is as good as that of the abstract expressionist masters. But I am

happily prepared to admit that my eyes are not as experienced viewers as those of professional critics and historians. Your critic is entitled to his opinions, of course, but some others just qualified — dispute his judgment.

In such cases, surely, the best solution is for people to decide for themselves whether the promotion of Shapinsky is justified or not. Hell hath no fury like an art critic surprised by a work of art. The *Guardian* should at least ensure that the photograph of a painting is printed the right way up: a courtesy you did not extend to Shapinsky. — Yours etc, Tariq Ali, London N8.

Sir, — Contrary to Waldemar Januszczak's allegations, I did not set out to discover any "undiscovered genius"



Why opinions are sacred

Sir, — I am not so sure that Michael Hart (Letters, May 28) understands the nature of democracy well enough to criticise the lack of understanding in others.

If he believes that a majority of students, or of anyone, after "full and lengthy debate," have the right to refuse free speech to those whose opinions they might object to, he might as well sell it, for example, he would favour the holding of a referendum in which, after full and lengthy debate, the nation is balloted on the question of the forcible repatriation of blacks; a majority vote naturally deciding the issue, as is the nature of democracy.

The nature of democracy is a bit more complex than that. It lies in the willingness of that majority to deny itself absolute power, including the power to restrict certain inalienable rights of the minority, even and especially when that minority is despisable, like our fascists and racists.

If, wrote John Stuart Mill, "all mankind minus one were of one opinion, and only one person were of the

contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind. . . . We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavouring to stifle is a false opinion; and if it were, it is like killing the good with the bad."

If it is argued that a number of things, including the Holocaust, have happened since Mill wrote those words, making them no longer operable in our day, we have freely thrown away those very things that these very millions lost their lives in defending. Including the right of everyone to the preservation of freedom, trust, freedom to all men. — Yours faithfully, Ralph Estling, The Old Forge, Dordish Wake, Somerset.

A COUNTRY DIARY

LANBERIS: If you have ever visited the National Museum of Wales you will know that it occupies a splendid edifice in Cardiff. What you may not know is that the museum is also very much alive up here in the north. Since the local slate quarries were closed in 1962, despite its wicked climate, has become increasingly a centre for tourism, interpretive centres, and industrial archaeology. For tourists the star exhibit is Snowdon. For interpretation the Mecca is the Welsh Environmental Gallery, an out-

station of the National Museum, housed in a magnificent new building near the lake. Here local history and ecology with many other matters are very effectively displayed. I particularly liked the rock garden with its many labelled plants: a rare chance of seeing some of Snowdon's plants without having to climb 3,000 feet. Then across the lake is another noble effort by the same authority: the Wyfelen State Museum where you can learn all you need to know about this industry which for 150 years was the backbone of life for thousands of people. You can

Twisting the Falklands facts

Sir, — Eric Ogden of the Falkland Islands Committee writes (Letters, May 22) that I stated in my article that his "committee has little support in the islands." In fact I wrote that "few give wholehearted support to their own pressure group, the Falklands Islands Committee. Lack of confidence at every turn." There is a subtle difference.

Mr Ogden, on radio in the Falklands, has described the South Atlantic Council as a "pro-Argentine lobby." Such inaccuracies would seem to be characteristic. He reports that I lectured islanders. Unlike Mr Ogden, a former MP, I did not hold public meetings or advocate a particular solution for the Anglo-Argentine dispute.

The Times (May 15), after the airport opening, described Mr Ogden as one "who is adept at playing partition to the gallery." Inaccurate stories from Stanley about statements by George Foulkes MP were followed by apologies to him from Rotherham, a fellow MP and the Prime Minister.

Mr Foulkes did not attend Eric Ogden's rally in the

town hall, but he did meet islanders for a breakfast session. The *Guardian* correspondent wrote (May 15) that islanders were impressed by his "his reasonable manner and readiness to listen and argue."

It is to be hoped that the spate of inaccurate reporting from Stanley and the lobby will cease. The majority of islanders are doubtless dismayed by such poor publicity. It is regrettable that Mr Ogden comments upon none of the constructive suggestions in a long article, but merely picks up a point relating to himself: a question of wounded vanity perhaps. — Yours sincerely, (Dr) Elaine M. Low, The City Alliance, London, ECL.

Miscellany at large

Sir, — John Torode's Working Brief (May 29) sums up the dangers to democracy of the Government's proposals to control "static demonstrations." A practical example of possible things to come was provided for us in North Devon two weeks ago. I and six other local people, in a chair, tried peacefully to demonstrate against the nuclear waste ship Pacific Sandpiper, which was being named at a ceremony in Appledore.

Our intention was to display a banner and distribute leaflets, against nuclear power and nuclear weapons. This we were allowed to do for 15 minutes until a police inspector appeared who removed us to an enclosure up the road. We were told that we were being held because it was felt our demonstration would have led to a breach of the peace.

It was evident that we were not a mass picket, and we showed no signs of violence, and we were not football club supporters, and yet we

were denied what we had thought was our democratic right to protest. — Yours faithfully, Peter Bame, Braunton, North Devon.

Sir, — Overheard in a garden centre from a customer choosing rose bushes: "Any 7/1 have a Mrs Thatcher please?"

Assistant: calling to lad amongst plants: "Another T. B. W. John."

Customer: "Actually I said I wanted Mrs Thatcher."

Assistant: "Yes — that bloody woman." A rose would smell sweeter. — Yours faithfully, John Lane, Norwich.

Sir, — Having read the advertisement in the *Guardian* of May 29 for a chair in economics at the "University of Sterling" (sic), I can't help wondering if the post carries a teaching exchange agreement with the nearby Dollar Academy. — Yours (Dr) A.F. Armitage, Edinburgh.

Yet some women who would fulfil this requirement may lose jobs. All because they can be dismissed earlier in pregnancy before they have worked their two years. It is astonishing that the whole range of statutory maternity entitlements are to be undermined.

Under the new rules there will be no protection for the large number of women who have not been in the same job for two years at the beginning of their pregnancy. Those who will suffer most from the reduced protection, against unfair dismissal are women who need it most. — Yours faithfully, Ruth Evans, Maternity Alliance, London NW1.

As far as secrecy and public accountability are concerned, is Charles Smith unaware that the Secondary Examinations Council is investigating the A-level grading system (instigated quite deliberately by the JMB, as a matter of interest). Is he also unaware that in a board such as mine all policy decisions are taken by committees which contain majorities of practising teachers nominated by the main teachers' organisations?

Methods of assessment rest with them, as does responsibility for scrutinising and monitoring each year's examinations.

The JMB has allowed the television and the press full access to its examining and awarding procedures, an unequivocal record of serious and informed reporting on educational matters.

I can affirm now that all the board's records for the A-level examination in 1984 and the preceding years, from the initial marking to the award of grades, are open to immediate detailed inspection by the *Guardian's* established educational correspondents. The JMB has nothing to hide and nothing to fear from scrutiny. — Yours faithfully, Colin Vickerman, Joint Matriculation Board, Manchester.

WEEKEND SPORT

A ban that was born in the Seventies

David Lacey finds logic and courage in the FA's action

THE decision of the Football Association to withdraw English clubs from Europe next season is the saddest logical conclusion to more than a decade of violence by the hooligans abroad. The tragedy is that it took the deaths of 38 people in Brussels on Wednesday night to bring about the inevitable.

We should all have seen it coming when Glasgow Rangers' supporters fought with the Barcelona riot police after their team had beaten Moscow Dynamo in the 1972 Cup-Winners' Cup final, when Leeds United fans tore up plastic seating in Paris during the 1975 Champions Cup final to hurl it at the CRS and when England followers went on various rampages in Luxembourg, Basle, Turin and elsewhere.

At one time or another violent groups from the large English communities had been involved in violence on the Continent whether purporting to support Tottenham, Manchester United, or whoever. The city of Liverpool was the last to become involved and clearly the FA felt that if even Anfield supporters could not avoid trouble then a ban had to be called.

As Hans Bangerter, secretary of

UEFA said, it was clear that the English football authorities no longer had the situation under control. The FA's decision has saved the European Football Union the trouble of kicking out the English clubs themselves.

Of course, the ban is less than fair on most clubs and their supporters who had nothing to do with the Brussels disaster and whose own records in Europe are blameless. Teams such as Ipswich and Watford have played in the European competitions and been praised for the behaviour of their supporters. This especially applies to Everton, whose fans poured into Rotterdam for the Cup-Winners' Cup final just over a fortnight ago and drank a considerable amount but still managed to mix amicably with both the Dutch police and rival Rapid Vienna supporters.

Indeed, the stark contrast between Rotterdam and Brussels, when the English supporters involved were distinguishable only by their colours

and not their actions, ask serious questions about the conduct of the Belgian police.

However, the FA have had to consider the wider issue, as they put it, of the country's reputation. The horrific pictures shown across the world on Wednesday night made it imperative that Bert Millichamp, chairman of the FA, and Ted Croker, the secretary, should state their own attitude before they saw Mrs Thatcher. One of the encouraging aspects of this unhappy affair is that at last English football had the courage to take the decision for itself without leaving it to others.

It is true, as the FA points out, that the financial loss stemming from one year's absence from Europe will be considerable for the clubs concerned. Quite apart from the gate receipts there is the income from television and sponsors.

When sponsorship deals are made with a large football club, the firms do so on the assumption that their prod-

uct will receive generous television exposure at home and abroad. The events of the last few days are bound to persuade many potential sponsors to put their money elsewhere.

However, these cannot be considered arguments against the FA's decision. The financial implications as far out weighed by the greatest injustice of all, which is that 38 people went happily to watch a football match in the Heysel Stadium and never came out alive.

For a long time now the football authorities have been urging the Government to take away the passports of fans who cause trouble in other countries. But whenever this has been mentioned, it has been rejected on the grounds that it would infringe civil liberties.

Now that the greatest civil right of all, namely the right to live, has been crushed, the FA have taken the shortest and most obvious step.

This can only be the beginning. If

there are further outbreaks of hooliganism on English grounds next season to compare with the riots seen as Chelsea and Luton earlier this year, then the FA will surely have no alternative but to extend the European ban.

It seems likely that following Brussels, Parliament will hasten through legislation which will ban alcohol at football stadiums and on trains and buses travelling to the games. This, combined with the searching inquiries into the safety of grounds after the Bradford fire disaster, means that the 1985-86 season will see English football facing its most difficult struggle to survive.

Even here in Mexico City, the repercussions are still reverberating. It seems highly unlikely now that England's match against Italy in the Aztec Stadium on Thursday will be called off, although there has been pressure on the Italians from home to withdraw.

For two England players, Ray Wilkins and Mark Hateley, there is the

unpleasant prospect of having to fly back to Italy after England have played Mexico on June 6. They are both due to play for Milan against Juventus in the first leg of an Italian Cup quarter-final on June 12, with the second leg in Turin a week later.

It is understood that Italian feelings are so strong after Brussels that people are even suggesting all English players should be barred from Italian football. This is illogical, of course, but in the light of Wednesday's tragedy, understandable.

On Wednesday morning in Brussels, as Italian journalist spoke long and enthusiastically about British football, recalling the likes of Charles Law and Baker who, he said, always had a special place in his country's soccer affection. Italian fans have been watching English League games regularly on television and there is a particularly enthusiastic following for our football in Turin.

This makes Wednesday's tragedy all the more sad. An awful lot of bridges are going to have to be rebuilt and it is going to be a long time before Anglo-Italian football relationships are restored.

W. J. Weatherby on the WBA featherweight champion Eusebio Pedroza

Panama's lord of the rings

TITLE fights far away between non-Americans are seldom televised live in the United States. The ABC network's decision to cover the Eusebio Pedroza-Barry McGuigan battle for the WBA featherweight title in London next Saturday is proof of the Americans' great interest in both fighters.

Pedroza, from Panama City, Roberto Duran's home town, has been a revered old master for several years as much admired now as Duran was in his heyday; but McGuigan was not taken very seriously as a challenger until he recently beat Juan LaPorte, the temperamental but much-respected former WBC champion. Since McGuigan both outpunched and outboxed LaPorte, even Pedroza's most loyal fans have had to concede that McGuigan has a chance of beating the ageing champion, who is nearly 40 and LaPorte in a tough, bruising, sometimes dirty fight.

Born on March 2, 1953 in the Panama City ghetto of Maranon, Pedroza shined shoes and sold newspapers in the street as a young boy and credits his hero, Ismael Laguna, the former world lightweight champion, with first taking him to a boxing gym when he was eight. Pedroza turned professional at 16 and has since won 15 titles and three years later lost a title fight against the champion, Alfonso Zamora.

Pedroza found that dieting 15 1/2 lb in tall body down to 118 lb was weakening him (as making the 126 lb limit is now doing) so he turned featherweight and hasn't lost since. He won the championship on April 1, 1978 by beating Cezario Lastra so badly in front of 12,000 home-town fans in Panama.

City that the referee stopped the fight in round 13. He defended his title twice that year and 11 times in the next three years, when only two challengers lasted the 15 rounds.

Pedroza became one of the most travelled champions since Muhammad Ali, defending his title in Tokyo, Houston, Caracas, Seoul and New Jersey. He proved he had a strong chin by going down and getting up to win more than once. He demonstrated a powerful right that can knock an opponent out with one punch if that opponent doesn't possess a similarly strong chin.

Pedroza's admirers say he has learned all the tricks of survival through sheer experience, while his opponent call him an expert at elbowing, butting, rabbit punching, low blows and dirty fighting in general. "You're a pro. You fight to win and don't cry when you lose," Pedroza once said, referring to these criticisms.

Pedroza is undefeated as a featherweight, but in his last title defence, his nineteenth, against fellow-Panamanian Jorge Lujan, (a former world bantamweight champion), he kept getting hit with solid rights, and his stamina over 15 rounds looked suspect. At 30 he is certainly slower and less strong than he used to be, perhaps because of his problems making the weight limit.

If he loses to McGuigan, he may not be a rematch, because Pedroza has talked of becoming a junior lightweight and fighting Rocky Lockridge, the former WBA champion, whom he has twice defeated over 15 rounds, at featherweight. Or he could stage a battle of



THE MAN MCGUIGAN HAS TO BEAT: Pedroza defends his title in London next Saturday

the old masters by challenging Wilfredo Gomez, who won the championship from Lockridge on a controversial decision.

Pedroza and McGuigan have both fought the tough Dominican, Jose Caba: Pedroza beat him over 15 rounds, and McGuigan knocked him out in seven. Several American matchmakers who don't usually take European fighters seriously as top contenders, quote the Caba fight as proof that McGuigan has the non-stop punching power, confidence, skill and equally important — a strong enough chin to be a genuine contender.

But until the LaPorte fight, some of them doubted that McGuigan yet had the experience and ring cunning to cope with Pedroza. The veteran observer Gus D'Amato, Floyd Patterson's old manager, questioned whether McGuigan had suf-

ficient physical strength or skill in slipping punches, but was otherwise very favourably impressed.

Although Pedroza has achieved 33 knock-outs in 38 fights, his punching power depends on a cumulative effect rather than one devastating blow. In his last fight, Lujan took all his best punches and went down only once, in the fourteenth round, before getting up to win the last round.

Many professional American gamblers are putting their money on McGuigan because they think the ageing Pedroza is ready to be taken at least as a featherweight — by a strong puncher who can withstand his attacks and ring slickness and outlast him. In McGuigan's favour are Pedroza's recent weight problems and also the fact that the fight is before a home crowd, which can affect even a veteran like

Pedroza. Since the Hagler-Minter fight, British boxing crowds have a bad reputation for violence, and that also can affect a visiting fighter's attitude and concentration.

McGuigan will have to be wary of Pedroza's rough-house tactics if the champion feels he is losing. Like many Panamanian and Mexican fighters brought up in a rougher tradition, Pedroza can give a fair imitation of a street-fighter if he becomes desperate.

As British rules are stricter than those in other countries Pedroza has fought in, the British promoter should give him a crash course in the local etiquette as soon as he arrives, rather than waiting until fight time. It would be a disappointing end to a potentially great fight, and to a fine champion's seven-year reign, if Pedroza lost his title by being disqualified.

The Kid who grew to conquer England

Steve Cauthen rides the favourite in Wednesday's Derby. Chris Hawkins looks at the champion jockey's outstanding strike rate

JOHN BANKS, a bookmaker, once said that betting shops were a "house to print money"; the punters, of course, were paying. But now the punters are praising their own, courtesy of Steve Cauthen and Henry Cecil. The "glorious uncertainty" of the turf is no more: horses trained by Cecil and ridden by Cauthen keep winning.

It is a phenomenon almost unique here since the previous days of Darling and Richards, but it has happened more recently in the States — only eight years ago, in fact, when as a precocious 17-year-old, Cauthen, nicknamed The Kid, rode 457 winners in his first season as a jockey, won over \$8 million in purse money and captured the US Triple Crown on a horse called Affirmed. The horse-players couldn't believe their luck.

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Not surprisingly, Cauthen couldn't keep it up. He was still good, but increasing weight restricted his opportunities and, having conquered, he moved on, coming to England in 1979. The English, still characteristically believing they had no peers, were unimpressed. In his first season Cauthen rode only 52 winners. "Not a patch on Lester," said the know-alls.

So The Kid did have plenty to learn. The undulating, curiously-cambered, open English grass-courses were hardly akin to the tight, left-handed dirt-tracks in the States. Cauthen had trouble in keeping horses balanced and running straight, and the cat-and-mouse tactics of English jockeys were not what he was used to.

But he learned. In his second season he rode 61 winners, in his third 87, and in his fourth 107. Last season he was champion jockey with 130 winners, and at the end of the year he was offered the plum job in English racing, riding as number-one jockey to Newmarket trainer Henry Cecil, whose Warren Place stables house over 180 of the choicest thoroughbreds. The man he replaced was Lester Piggott.

Since the beginning of this season John Whitley of Computer Racing Form has calculated Cauthen's strike rate

on Cecil horses at 46.37 per cent. Cauthen has had 69 rides with 32 winners and 28 places, and has won £302,226 in prize money for the stable.

These are the statistics of success, but what is it about Cauthen that makes him so good? Firstly, he's a natural; his father, Tex, was a blacksmith and a pony trainer, while his mother, Myra, is the daughter of a trainer. Steve was riding ponies when he was two. He grew up in Walton, Kentucky — a remote place.

In the early stages of a race Cauthen concentrates on keeping still and balanced, keeping his seat secure, ruling from on the bit. Gradually, almost imperceptibly, he asks for more effort, letting out a little more rein. Then he begins to push and kick, and finally, if necessary, he wields the whip.

There is a power in the Cauthen smile, hard rhythmic hitting with either hand. And all the time the horse runs straight, so vital when it comes down to heads and necks.

If you watch him closely on the favourite Slip Anchor in the Derby at Epsom on Wednesday, you will see all this — the horse-players dream come true. And with a bit of luck the punter will have printed a few million more.



CECIL: gave Cauthen his chance in place of Piggott



CAUTHEN: fast learner

From Botswana to Brazil, golfers are driving for Royal Dornoch

David Davies on the venue of the 90th Amateur Championship, a remote and daunting course where golf has been played since 1610

ROYAL DORNOCH is 58 degrees north of the Equator. Seventy miles north of Inverness, 158 miles north of Edinburgh and 570 miles north of London. It is the most northerly first-class golf course in the world and it really is remote.

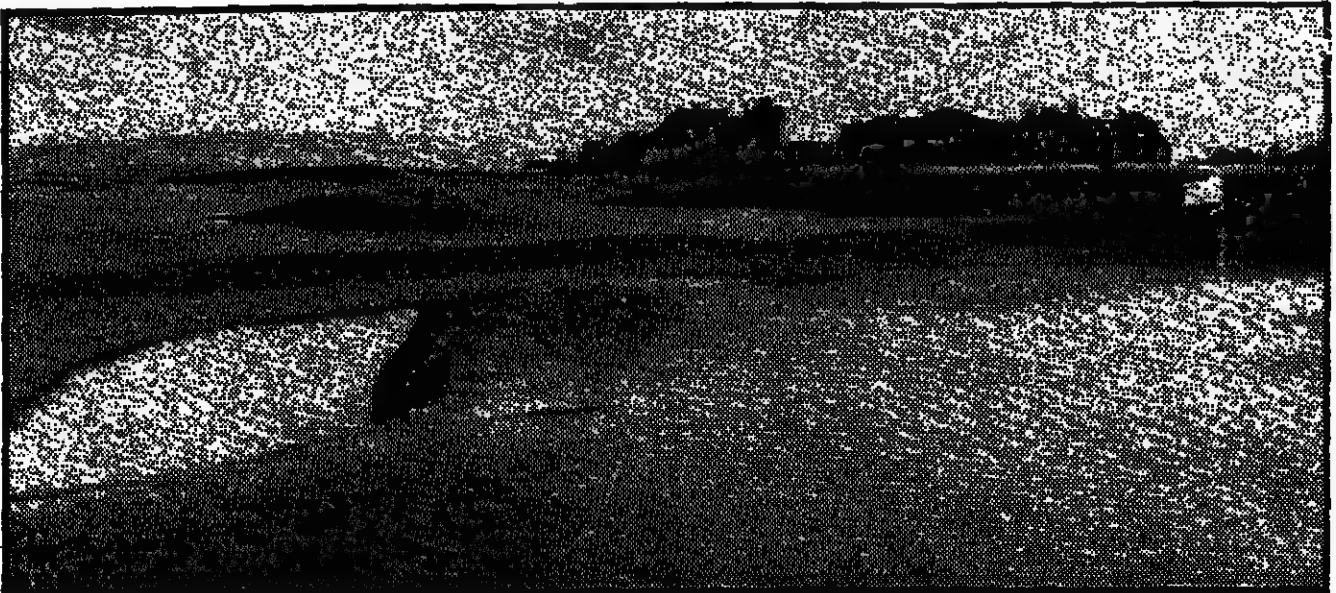
It takes a long time to get to Dornoch. When last I played there I partnered an American who had flown into London, down to Edinburgh, down to Dornoch, and from there 10 hours. I told him he should be grateful that he had not had to fly the planes himself — it had taken me 10 hours to get to Dornoch, driving every last dragging inch of the way from Birmingham.

Next week 288 golfers, from all over the world, survivors from a record entry of 456, will get themselves to the 90th Royal Dornoch for the Amateur Championship. They will

come from as far away as Australia and Brazil. From Botswana and South Africa, and they will discover, in one of the oldest and most beautiful golfing settings in the world, a very different championship from the first, held 100 years ago at the Royal Liverpool club, Hoylake.

On that occasion, in 1885, the organisers found themselves with three semi-finalists and the winner, Allan Fullerton McFie, of St Andrews, had a bye into the final. It came about because in match play in those days it was not uncommon for the participants in a halved match to both go forward into the next round.

This happened to McFie in the first round and both he and William Dolesman of Glasgow went into the second round. McFie won, but when he got into the fourth round he again halved his match, this time against



TEE FOR TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT: The desolate reaches of Royal Dornoch prepare for a global invasion

W. M. de Zoete of Royal Blackheath. They had to play again, and finished all square once more. So they played yet again, and McFie managed to win on the 18th green.

By this time, the other semi-final had been played, Horace Hutchinson beating

John Ball junior and McFie, although with a theoretical bye into the final, had actually played six matches to his opponent's four. He won 7 and 6, to become the first winner of the Amateur Championship.

Dornoch came into being long before the Champion-

ship began. Golf was played there in 1610, the club itself was formed in 1877 and Old Tom Morris himself was brought up from St Andrews in 1838 to make a full 18 holes. The layout is, basically, the same now as then, for Old Tom was delighted with what he saw. And what

golfer would not be? Dornoch is classic linksland, an amalgam of heather and gorse, winds and dunes, running down to the Dornoch Firth, absolutely useless for anything else, but absolutely perfect for golf. The place has brought inspiration to many, not least

Donald James Ross, Dornoch born and bred. He was professional and greenkeeper at the club from 1895 to 1898 before he left to become, in effect, the founding father of American golf. He designed 600 or more golf courses on that continent from the time that he landed in Boston with a mere two dollars in his pocket.

Herbert Warren Wind, the American golf writer and historian, says of him: "He was undoubtedly responsible for more fine golf courses than any other designer." In the last edition of "The 100 Greatest Golf Courses" by the magazine Golf Digest, Ross was the only architect with two courses in the top 10 and he had six in the top 50, more than anyone else. His masterpieces are Seminole, Florida (of which Ben Hogan once said that it had all the features he desired for his perfect golf course), Pinehurst No. 2 and Oakland Hills, Detroit where, in tribute to his enduring creativity, the US Open Championship will be played in 12 days time.

Donald Grant, another Dornoch man, in his book about Ross, finds it no surprise that the young man he knew and played with at

Dornoch, should build great golf courses in America. What he says in effect, could well have been "greeted by the morning glory of sunrise over the North Sea away to the eastern horizon, throwing gleams of sunlight on Strule Hill in the west and on the more distant peaks of Carn Chunnag and Cairn Bhren, on the western skyline."

"Standing there, Donald would drink in the full awareness of Dornoch as home and as heritage; would look north-east to the nearer hills ranging away, peak after peak to the culminating boldness of the Ord of Caithness, 40 miles away, bowing steeply down to the North Sea at the horizon. Unforgettable Dornoch vistas with the sea, changing morning colours upon land and sea and sky."

Dornoch is a place of golfing pilgrimage and if I learned one thing from mine, it is that it needs a week or more to approach the course in all its conditions. Ultimately, two people out of the original 288 will have that chance this coming week, playing in a place and in a Championship that is the very essence of the game of golf.

WEEKEND SPORT: TWO

ROUND-UP

Smiths pound Derby attack

CRICKET

HAMPSHIRE went to the top of the Britannia County Championship table with a magnificent four-wicket win over Derbyshire at Basingstoke yesterday.

Robin Smith scored a career-best 140 not out as Hampshire set 378 in 79 overs, achieving the daunting target with an over to spare. Smith, South African born but newly qualified for England, struck four sixes and 13 fours as Hampshire recorded their third consecutive win.

There was an explosive finish — Hampshire needed 47 from the last five overs, and 23 from the final three, but Smith provided the perfect finish to their efforts with two straight sixes off Geoff Miller and another off Dallas Mair to carry them through.

Sussex beat Glamorgan at Hove by nine wickets, successfully chasing a target of 203 off 41 overs. Allan Green, scored his first century in the second, and came with only 11 balls to spare.

Bowled out for only 58 in their first innings, Glamorgan fought back magnificently in the second, adding 221, each hitting a century. Henderson and Oulton added 221, each hitting a century.

Paul Fitzpatrick at Trent Bridge

Masterly Butcher frustrates Notts

Clive Rice gave Nottinghamshire two sessions in which to bowl out Leicestershire at Trent Bridge yesterday, and it proved not to be enough. There were men clustered around the bat for large parts of the innings, but Leicestershire achieved the draw without undue alarm on a pitch which remained easy-paced to the end, and gave less assistance to spin than the home side had perhaps anticipated.

Rice has made a number of contentious declarations in the past and the charge, missed, and was bowled, and Clift, who heaved crossed-batted at yesterday when he allowed the Nottinghamshire second innings to continue until lunch.

Randall batted freely enough, but Birch spent 21 overs compiling 18 laboured runs when time was of the essence. Leicestershire were thus left to score 298 runs to win in a minimum of 88 overs; never a likely possibility without Gower and Willey. They were, however, given their second innings by Balderson and Butcher, and were still in with the faintest chance of victory at tea, when they were 121 for two with a minimum of 29 overs left.

Dilip Rao at The Oval

Lynch lays down law

Their final tally of 406 for six belied the agony Surrey endured yesterday before a draw against Middlesex was ensured at The Oval, and they were indebted to a sterling partnership of 149 in the morning between Clinton and Needham.

But the day was eventually saved by an unfinished stand of 180 in 144 minutes between Lynch, not out with a glorious 144, and Jack Richards, who having arrived when Surrey were still three runs behind, stayed to score 44.

Sandwiched between those two sizeable associations was a most eerie collapse, and four wickets went down for 58 runs during 22 overs and 56 minutes.

Surrey resumed their innings in the morning at 19 for one, against a depressing background of injuries. However, while performing the duty of night-watchman on Thursday, had had his wrist fractured by a blow from Williams. He will be out of the game for five weeks, thus adding to Surrey's desperate shortage of bowling.

Martin Searby at Headingley

Somerset draw back

The declaration required Somerset to make 355 in what turned out to be 58 overs was influenced to injury by a bowler, who could not bowl, and fear of Richards, who has been down to nought after attacks of greater strength and depth.

In the event, the West Indians' threat was short-lived, though potent enough to worry Yorkshire as he made a powerful half-century from only 51 deliveries.

CRICKET

HENDERSON'S 111, included 17 fours, while Oulton batted for 245 minutes, hitting 21 boundaries. Henderson's brave example, although his task was to stay "re and use up as much time as possible. He was last out at 447 with a determined 42 spread over 30 overs.

Mendis and Green began the Sussex victory charge in businesslike fashion with 41 off the first five overs, and Mendis completed a half-century in 55 minutes.

The openers were finally parted at 136 in the 29th over, and there were a dozen more runs in Mendis's 70, but it was Green who reached the first century of his career, exactly 100 not out, which included 12 fours and one five. Fifty-five runs were needed off the last 10 overs, and Green and Parker scored them belligerently.

Warwickshire came close to scoring the 342 they needed to beat Northamptonshire at Northampton, but they finished at 320 for six as the West Indies spinner Roger Harper put the brakes on.

Warwickshire seemed to be on the winning side, but have no chance at 30 for three, but Dennis Amis and Geoff Humpage added 232 in a fourth-wicket stand lasting only 155 minutes. Amis scored 140, with a six and 18 fours, and Humpage finished with 123 not out.

That chance was removed immediately after the interval. Whitaker was unable to cope with a delivery from Hadies which the New Zealander batted in harder than most, and Butcher's second high-class innings came to an end soon afterwards when he got himself into a tangle on the back foot against Hemmings.

Nottinghamshire were in business again, and they were helped by lapses in concentration from Gartham, who gave such the charge, missed, and was bowled, and Clift, who heaved crossed-batted at yesterday when he allowed the Nottinghamshire second innings to continue until lunch.

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Coast to coast outrage

John Samuel in Vancouver on the North American reaction to the Brussels tragedy

"IMPROVE your soccer skills. Come to our summer camps." The breakfast-time advertisement on Vancouver television could not have been more miserably timed as the combined weight of CBC, CTV, ABC, NBC and CBS shot and re-shot the shattering scenes from Brussels, the martyr faces of the dead, the political reaction of London and Rome.

Social psychologists and commentators, some English, by satellite, pored over reasons and consequences. The English soccer fan abroad was no longer a Europhag. He was a world thug.

Vancouver, it is said, is more British than the British. It was not a comfortable image once the news broke. You wanted to disguise your English accent in the hotel lobbies and lifts. Vancouver and the north-west US is soccer's most powerful enclave in North America. The Vancouver Whitecaps were the major force of the North American Soccer League before it folded last year.

The League did not break up for lack of grassroots popularity. Soccer, recreationally, is one of the leading sports of North America. Because it is a non-contact sport by American pre-football standards, and played well by young women who have their own national tournament, there is shocked incredulity at the Brussels massacre.

The story made front-page news even in the Wall Street Journal, the lead in the Seattle Post-Intelligence and the Vancouver Sun.

Jim Lawton, a former Daily Express columnist and Canada's leading syndicated sportswriter, was putting together a verbal picture of the British soccer hooligan for his column. "The inviolable has happened, people have been killed, and I'm saying it's part political."

"There's a whole disaffected section of society due to neglect. The fan is 19 years old, his dad perhaps a doer, his mother a miner who hasn't worked in a while, he's a pariah and he's part of a tribe of Parisians working off their aggression in soccer. He wears cheap denim summer and winter, he's a monster or a victim."

"The English comprehensive is probably the worst in the world. It's a suburban Vancouver school but in North America the sports stadium is still a preserve of old values whatever mugging goes on round the corner."

"In Britain, soccer is the reverse. Remember when we covered Spurs and Feyenoord in Rotterdam and Bill Nicholson went on the loudspeakers to tell them: 'You're bringing shame to England. The Trent was the last of it. Nicholson. I certainly remember, lost his daughter in the street melee. A man of disciplined values, Nicholson never again had the same appetite for managing, and perhaps even the game."

Tony Walters, Canada's national coach, capped five times for England and Liverpool's youth coach in the seventies, was more saddened than most. "I remember the violence in the World Cup games between China and Hong Kong was very ugly. It was very ugly."

"In their ignorance they are right. It's a social and economic problem. In England no-one has addressed the problem in a determined way. We've been too soft, hiding people over and then seeing it grow to tragic proportions. Of course, there's a lot more to it but, one way or another, soccer just has to go on playing."

"I loved Liverpool. It was my greatest soccer experience. The Liverpool fan in the seventies was naughty. If you like, but nice. He valued his reputation. There was applause for the opposition. Over here, most of the violence is on the field, which I think is better. It's just more civilized to go to a stadium. There's no hassle parking, the climate is good. The people who run it look to the best times for fans to come. They know sport will only thrive if the fans enjoy it. They don't want to come and cheer or be threatened. In England, after I left Plymouth, I wouldn't take my kid to a soccer match. It was just bad just going from the car park into the ground."

Walters sees soccer as a game of major growth in Canada whatever the spectacle of British or other violence. Canada can well qualify for next year's World Cup.

Peter Chapman reports from Mexico City

Robson's winning PR debut

SOCCER

ENGLAND'S manager, Bobby Robson, showing some deft touches yesterday, rode the storm of his first face-to-face encounter with the notoriously sensitive Mexican press — but only just.

With tempers frayed over Wednesday night's tragedy in Brussels, one reporter from the Mexican government news agency threatened, at one stage, to walk out of the press conference. Robson's response of "let him go" was fortunately lost amid the further activity and splutters from Robson's assistants and British Embassy staff nearby.

England's tour is in advance of next year's World

Cup finals when diplomacy will count for a lot. Yesterday Robson was widely believed to have put up a good show. "He's a very good politician," said one local newswoman as Robson made possibly his third reference to what a fine place Mexico was.

"You have beautiful cities, perfect pitches, the ideal site for a World Cup," added Robson in a burst of purple prose that in 1970 would have had Sir Alf Ramsey choking on his words. But, as in 1970 — when the Mexican media managed to whip up public opinion almost entirely against England — they gave notice that they can still be a tough bunch.

"Do we have to fear more from the England team, or the England fans?" said the government's newshound, enjoying a day off from the dog-like obedience expected of him, when dealing with Mexican officialdom.

Robson, who usually looks down at the ground and counts to 100 before answering most questions, this time let it run to 1,000. "We hope," he said after an age, "to be judged on our technical performance and not on the violent actions of a tiny minority."

This was good enough, though the walkout threat came when he said that the F.A. not the England party, was the best body to ask further about the fans in the wake of the Brussels disaster. He finally relented but was forced on to an awkward limb in claiming that there would be no "I repeat, no," incident involving English supporters should his team qualify for Mexico next year.

Robson was possibly at his best when praising Mexico, "a country we love," rather than when defending England. He sensed a real winner in the subject of this week's Mexican Cup Final and said he had been highly impressed by the standard of the game. "You have players who would be a danger to anyone in the world," he said.

But could he name any of them, asked one local. "No," said Robson though immediately wriggling well out of a difficult moment and winning laughter from the gallery. "They were so fast I couldn't see the numbers on their backs." Nice one, Bob, Lincoln's manager Colin Murphy, yesterday left the club by mutual consent. Murphy, 41, had been in charge of the Third Division club since 1978 after being Derby manager.

David Irvine reports on the French Championships

Noah misses and hits

TENNIS

Next to Michel Platini, no one in French sport has greater crowd appeal than Yannick Noah. Yesterday, in the French Championships, Noah missed the equivalent of an open goal in the World Cup and got away with it. What might have been a day of mourning ended in celebration when the 1983 hero of Paris profited from an appalling line-man's error.

One moment Noah was on the brink of defeat; the next he had won the last 10 points to beat Jose-Luis Clerc 6-1, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 after four hours and 23 minutes.

In the first set Noah, after being just two points from going out, squatted to smash away a short lob by his Argentinian opponent and appeared to be paying dearly when the ball landed six inches out. To everyone's astonishment the ball was called good. Noah himself was screened by the net post and could not see. But he did the gentlemanly thing by offering Clerc when he made his protest, to play the point again.

But the decision stood. At the moment the contest died. Clerc's concentration evaporated instantly in a match that — until this sad hiatus had been another "day-court classic."

But Noah should never have been in danger. Though he played a poor tie-break to lose the second set, he had chances on each of Clerc's service games in the fourth and three break points in the opening game of the fifth. Clerc fought doggedly and was content that he would have won. That call could well have changed my life," he said bitterly. "To have beaten Yannick here would have meant far more than beating him anywhere else."

Patrick Fiodrop's request for the line-man to step out and look at the mark. This may cost Fiodrop his place in the chair. The case will be considered today and it was significant that Ken Ferra, the tournament supervisor, said the incident underlined the need for professional officials. Inspired, no doubt, by Noah's escape, the French No.



CELEBRATION TIME... after Yannick Noah took the last 10 points for victory

3 Henri Leconte took over centre stage to produce the day's chief upset, a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 victory over the fifth seed and fellow-left-hander Andres Gomez.

Leconte will now challenge Noah for a place in the quarter-finals and, on form, anything could happen when they meet tomorrow. Gomez might Leconte in commanding mood, serving and volleying brilliantly.

Wilder struggled on an outside court to overcome Spain's Emilio Sanchez 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 while Henrik Sundstrom and Joakim Nyström, who was hurt in a car crash last week, were other Swedish successes. John McEnroe, Sundstrom's next opponent, had the easiest time. But then he said: "Now the real business begins — if I don't play well, I'll lose." No doubt he was remembering his

Davis Cup loss to Sundstrom in Gothenburg.

Two 15-year-olds, Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) and Steffi Graf (West Germany) advanced to the last 16 with identical scores. Graf now meets Chris Lloyd, who was surprisingly stretched to 6-4, 7-5 by an unknown Greek girl, Angeliki Kanellopoulou, who stole her serve three times in the second set.

French open (five) Men's singles (first round) (1st set) (2nd set) (3rd set) (4th set) (5th set) (6th set) (7th set) (8th set) (9th set) (10th set) (11th set) (12th set) (13th set) (14th set) (15th set) (16th set) (17th set) (18th set) (19th set) (20th set) (21st set) (22nd set) (23rd set) (24th set) (25th set) (26th set) (27th set) (28th set) (29th set) (30th set) (31st set) (32nd set) (33rd set) (34th set) (35th set) (36th set) (37th set) (38th set) (39th set) (40th set) (41st set) (42nd set) (43rd set) (44th set) (45th set) (46th set) (47th set) (48th set) (49th set) (50th set) (51st set) (52nd set) (53rd set) (54th set) (55th set) (56th set) (57th set) (58th set) (59th set) (60th set) (61st set) (62nd set) (63rd set) (64th set) (65th set) (66th set) (67th set) (68th set) (69th set) (70th set) (71st set) (72nd set) (73rd set) (74th set) (75th set) (76th set) (77th set) (78th set) (79th set) (80th set) (81st set) (82nd set) (83rd set) (84th set) (85th set) (86th set) (87th set) (88th 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WEEKEND SPORT: THREE

Matthew Engel

Botham loses the sweep

CRICKET

THE LATEST instalment in the adventures of Ian Botham took a new and strange turn last night when Peter May, the chairman of the England selectors, instructed Botham — and Gatting — not to play the reverse sweep, the shot that led to Botham's dismissal in the opening one-day international against Australia at Old Trafford on Thursday.

May said he had thumbed through the MCC coaching book and been unable to find the stroke. "When you are an England batsman as strong and successful as they are, it's got to be an unnecessary risk." It will therefore not be seen from an England batsman at least, at Edgbaston today when the second one-day international is played.

This presumably puts an end to the last battle in this summer's cricketing generation game between the critics and the cricketers, though in a fairly extraordinary manner. The MCC coaching book was not written with one-day internationals in mind.

May will probably be familiar with the Moby Python sketch in which northern businessmen compete with each other over their childhood deprivations — "A shoe box? Lookshery! We lived in 'ole in the ground"

And there persists among former cricketers the feeling that their game belonged to a golden age of chivalry, competence and hardship. Everyone bowled a thousand overs a season of perfect line and length in borrowed boots, and did you hear them complain?

The dispute over the reverse sweep, condemned by almost everyone over 50, seems to crystallise the gap that exists between the former players and the current ones — idle, rich and unforgivably young.

The shot was introduced to English cricket by Mushtaq Mohammed, and there are still only a handful of imitators. Javed is probably the most regular and most fluent user. Botham has always maintained that it is a safe shot. And if I added up all the reverse sweeps I had ever seen the score would be about 200 for 2.

If played properly, it is a ground stroke to be much feared by the bowler, which is enchanting to the crowd and extremely unsettling for the bowler.

The major problems are that the batsman virtually has to make his mind up in advance and if it goes wrong he looks a complete twit. There was some amusement in the last night at the thought of Peter Willey, with his mid-on stance, trying to play it. He concluded that it would probably require a crane to sort out the mess.

Now May has decided it is not a legitimate option. As the greatest postwar English strokeplayer he speaks with some authority, but I believe he has fallen for some of the absurdly overstated criticism of Botham.

England lost on Thursday primarily because Nos. 7, 8, 9 in the order — Willey, Dowdson and Edmondson — all failed to support Gatting in the closing stages. However, it is Botham's flash and swagger that diverts people. And now he is to be inhibited. It is very rough.



MAY: Rule of thumb

Graham Snowdon with the Milk Race

Soviets close ranks

CYCLING

The Soviet Union strengthened their overall position in the Milk Race despite again being denied their first stage win on yesterday's 103-mile fifth leg from Bury St Edmunds to Leicester.

The international professional composite squad gained their first overall lead in the round-Britain event when Joachim Schlabach, 23, from West Germany, led in a 12-strong group ahead of a Soviet rival, Vladimir Poulitkov.

However, with a 20-second bonus, Poulitkov moves up to third place overall behind his compatriot Thomas Kirsipuu, and Roy Knickman of the US, both of whom missed the winning break yesterday. Sergei Voronin came in with the leaders to put three Soviets in the first four overall.

With a helping wind, the race progressed at a furious pace from the start, but team-tactical tactics by four Soviet riders — including the yellow jersey — on the front of the

bunch only temporarily split the field.

Anders Jarl (Sweden) got a 20-second lead before the Russians pulled him back, but the Danish rider, Jan Joergensen, escaped near Blunham — all but a minute of a time break, which was to last 56 miles.

Joergensen, 18, who as a child suffered from a disease in his hip joint which was cured only two years before he started racing in 1981, soon opened up a minute's lead, but looked in danger of being caught during one spell before stretching it out one more to a maximum 4 min 35 sec.

An 11-strong chasing group formed near Corby, just before the 50-mile mark, and as they closed in Joergensen, realising his escape was doomed, sat up to be absorbed with 12 miles remaining.

Kirsipuu was among a handful of riders who briefly defied the pack in an effort to close the gap, but in the end it was Czogedza, van der Pluijm and Watson, who made the split to bring the breakaway group's lead from a maximum of 27 seconds.



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OLYMPIC GAMES

John Rodda in Berlin

LA chief tipped for IOC seat

PETER UEBERROTH, the man who put profit back into the Olympic Games, is coming to Berlin next week. He brings a weighty final report to demonstrate to the International Olympic Committee how much profit was achieved, and he could leave with a membership card of one of the world's most exclusive clubs.

His is among the names under consideration to take the place of the IOC of Doug Boly, who is now 87 and has stood down. There has been plenty of shuffling and forelock-touching, but from within the executive board meetings come inspired leaks of possible successors, which include Ueberroth and Bob Heinkel, the president of the International Swimming Federation.

By ensuring that this information is spread among the corridors of the IOC hotel, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, knows that he is testing the state of the love-hate relationship which exists between Ueberroth and the Olympic movement.

The Games in Los Angeles produced a profit currently running at over \$200 million, but none of it is going back into the coffers of the IOC. At the top of the list are plenty of cheerleading over the arrangements and facilities (over-crowding in the Olympic villages) and high prices.

Plenty of members of the IOC — the Greeks, most of all — are prepared to stand up and tell their president that the IOC was ripped off. Yet before the IOC get into a slanging match with the masterminds behind the Los Angeles Games, they should take note that the hotel where they are all staying is crammed with people eagerly hawking their wares as candidate cities for the 1992 Games.

Ten have exhibition stands and two more are committed while the British and the Americans still have to make up their minds about their candidates for the summer and winter Games respectively. Ueberroth justifies his credit card on this rush to put on the greatest sports event in the world.

Of course Ueberroth, believed to be on route to the White House, may feel that a place on the IOC is not part of his game plan, particularly as he is already busily occupied as Baseball Commissioner in the US. But in the present mood of the IOC, trying to grasp the ramifications of the commercial world, it might be a good idea to have a man of Ueberroth's understanding on board.



FERRARI FASTEST... Alboreto shattered the top record yesterday

David Frost reports from Christchurch

Old warriors in the All Black front line

RUGBY UNION

The sharp end of the All Blacks' dreadnought pack of forwards facing England in the first Test here is a front row of Gary Knight, Springboks, and John Ashworth, Daltons, who are held in almost as much awe in New Zealand as were Phil Blakey, Peter Wheeler and Fran Cotton in England won the Grand Slam.

Certainly Knight, Dalton, and Ashworth have between them amassed a vast amount of experience over the last eight years. They first went on tour together when the All Blacks visited France in 1977, and they were all three in Graham Mourie's triumphant side in the British Isles.

In New Zealand their achievements are just as impressive. They have formed the All Blacks' front row in a number of World Cup matches in 1981, against the Wallabies in 1982, against Ciaran Fitzgerald's Lions in 1983, and against France a year ago.

Knight, the tight-head prop, equals the New Zealand record for a most of a dozen years. Test, joining the distinguished company of Wilson Whineray, the All Blacks' great captain and loose-head prop of the early 1960s, who played in 32 Tests. Knight is essentially a strong, compact prop, but he is also a very reliable handler in the loose, where he likes to charge ahead with his body leading forward and low, in the test New Zealand style. He won a bronze medal for wrestling in the 1974 Commonwealth Games here.

Such men do not have to train as strenuously as those who sit in offices all day, and summer do not give up their places in an All Black side without a fight.

Maurice Hamilton at Spa Francorchamps

Alboreto close to perfection

MOTOR RACING

Grand Prix racing, by moving from the stifling confines of Monte Carlo two weeks ago to the magnificent Spa Francorchamps circuit, has gone from the ridiculous to the sublime.

The 4.3-mile circuit for tomorrow's Belgian Grand Prix, a mixture of public roads and purpose-built tracks, sweeping through the Ardennes, contains all the elements guaranteed to raise a smile of satisfaction on the face of the most blasé drivers, provided he puts together a perfect lap.

That privilege eluded all 26 drivers in practice yesterday, but Michele Alboreto came closest, the Ferrari driver lapping at an average 133mph to beat the Lotus-Renaults of Elio de Angelis, and Ayrton Senna by two-tenths of a second.

Alboreto's time of 1min 56.04secs flashed 11 secs off the lap record, the substantial improvement being accounted for by engine development in the two years since Grand Prix cars last raced at Spa and the fact that the circuit has been resurfaced.

While the new surface provides more grip for the turbo-charged cars, a puncture on the rear of a second.

Palmer's problem was indicative of a run of engine-related failures during practice, the most serious occurring to Alain Prost, who lost three engines on his McLaren and failed to record a single timed lap. If it rains today, contrary to the 75 degrees yesterday, Prost will start the fifth round of the championship from the back of the grid.

MOTOR CYCLING

Peter Clifford at Salzburg

Spencer mounts offensive

Freddie Spencer continued his impressive attack on the 500cc world championship by being fastest in the first day's practice for Sunday's Austrian Grand Prix at the Salzberg ring.

The world champion Eddie Lawson was second quickest on the Marlboro Yamaha ahead of his fellow American Randy Mamola on the three-cylinder Honda.

Spencer on his V4 Rothmans Honda was over half a second quicker than Lawson and it seems that the superior speed of the Honda will really tell round the very fast circuit.

Ron Haslam lies in seventh place on his Honda Britain machine just behind his teammate Wayne Gardner. Rob McElnea, who qualified a brilliant fourth last year, is now only 12th but the team have now collected some new parts flown in direct from Japan which they hope will supply some much-needed horse power.

For Spencer last year's Austrian GP was something of a disaster with a machine that just got slower all through practice and the race. This year he seems to have turned the tables on last year's winner Lawson.

ATHLETICS

Donald Fields in Helsinki

New Finnish drugs furore

FINNISH competitors who won 13 Olympic medals at the last three summer Games used banned substances, claims Dr Markku Alen of Jyväskylä University.

The allegation by Dr Alen, who also says that the Finnish contestants used illegal stimulants while training for those Games, has stunned a nation with a superb athletics tradition.

Dr Alen based his findings on interviews from coaches and sportsmen who asked about the side-effects of illegal stimulants after they had acquired them.

The doctor has also criticised an official anti-doping committee for not being sufficiently independent of vested sporting interests and is now being asked by Finland's largest sports federation and the government's health ministry for further evidence. Dr Alen, however, says he has promised offenders to keep their names secret.

The revelations may spark fresh speculation that Lasse Viren, Finland's Olympic champion in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres in Munich and Montreal, achieved his success through ethically-dubious blood doping.



CHESS

Leonard Barden

THE RUSSIANS almost swept the board at last month's Candidates' tournament which will eventually produce a 1986 challenger for Karpov or Kasparov. Three of the four Carlsbad qualifiers for the candidates tournament will represent the USSR, and this already increases the possibility that the Soviet candidates will perform as a team to freeze out dangerous rivals.

Results were Yusupov (USSR) 11½ out of 16, Belyavsky (USSR) 11, Portisch (Hungary) 10, Chernin and Gavrilov (USSR) 9½, Hort (Czech), Sosonko (Holland), and Dlugy (US) 9, de Firmian (US) 8½, Miles (England), Nikolic (Yugoslavia), and Suba (Romania) 8, and five others.

Tony Miles's result is a sad disappointment compared with his victory only a few months ago in the Telford super-tournament and his stated ambition to "have a go at Karpov". John Nunn has written a book on the Soviet international which starts next week, so that the British challenge for the 1988 world title is already in disarray. We are left with Spelman of Mexico and Nigel Short at the Biel international in a few weeks' time.

What went wrong? Miles plays tournaments and West German league matches throughout the year with hardly a break. He is physically strong and mentally resilient, but occasional fatigue is inevitable, and he was also below par at his previous international in 1984.

There is also a basic dilemma facing most European grandmasters like Miles, Nunn, Timman, or Andersson when they compete in the world championship cycle. Qualifying tournaments are arranged at short notice, are time-consuming events with slow schedules, while FIDE conditions and prizes compare unfavourably with the World European and US circuit. There is an overabundance of Russians, both in absolute numbers and because of the reigning champion's special exemption privileges.

With the odds so high against becoming a challenger, it is difficult for West Europeans to tackle the FIDE cycle with full commitment. Short, 20-years-old today, is too young to have realistic prospects in 1985-86, but his age and performance is near enough to world title standard to give him a fighting chance to overcome the many obstacles.

Yusupov, Belyavsky, and Chernin are the three super world champions. The tournament winner, aged 25, plays with power and energy in this king's side attack.

GM Arman Yusupov (USSR-GM) defeated the Russian GM Vladimir Kramnik (USSR) in the Candidates' Faw (Carlsbad 1985).

1 P-Q4-N3 2 N-K3 P-Q4 3 P-E3 P-Q4 4 B-Q3 P-N3?

A combination of P-K3 and P-KN3 offers a suspect for Black due to the dark square weaknesses at Q3 and K3 which White exploits in the present game.

5 P-Q3-N3 6 B-K3-Q2 7 Q-N2 P-B4 8 P-Q4-Q4 9 P-Q4-Q4

Black forces the bishop to a less active diagonal, but his own pieces become disjointed.

10 B-N2 E-Q1 11 Q-Q2 R-P3 12 B-QP-N4 13 B-Q2-QN-K3 14 N-N3 P-N4 15 N-K3-B2 16 P-B4 P-KN4?

White has declared his intention to play a dark square attack. Black cannot protect his Q3 with a pawn, so matters are already serious; but the text is a fresh weakening which provokes White's eventual P-K4. Black should try B-K1 and P-Q4.

17 Q-Q1 E-K1 18 B-N1 Q-R6 19 P-E3 Q-R3 20 B-Q2 P-N3 21 B-Q1 Q-Q2 22 Q-Q2-QN4 23 P-Q3 P-N5 24 Q-R4 P-N5 25 P-N4 P-P 26 P-P BQ1-N1

Black has no defence to the coming attack on the KR file, but cannot capture the queen because of remaining positional trump and storms the Q6 square.

27 N-B4 B-B3 28 B-E3 B-Q2 29 N-Q6 R1-Q1 30 B-E3 B-Q4 31 K-E2 N-K3?

The threat R1-Q1 and Q-R6 ch is decisive. If 31... N-K1, 32 Q-R8 ch.

No. 1855

A rare chance to find a tactical coup which Gary Kasparov overlooked. The diagram is from Mikhailchishin v. Kasparov, Moscow 1981, where Kasparov (Black) has just retreated R-Q4-Q3, offering his king pawn. What was his idea, and what was the hidden point he missed?

This hard puzzle will test even strong players.

Solution No. 1857: White K at K3, Q at K3, R at K3, B at QN7 and Q3, P at Q5 and K4. Black K at K3, R at Q4, B at K2 and K3, P at Q6 and K4. 1. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 2. N-K3. 3. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 4. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 5. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 6. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 7. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 8. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 9. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 10. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 11. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 12. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 13. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 14. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 15. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 16. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 17. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 18. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 19. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 20. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 21. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 22. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 23. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 24. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 25. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 26. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 27. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 28. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 29. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 30. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 31. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 32. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 33. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 34. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 35. BxP (threat 2-Q4-Q3) 36. 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DIARY

THE Government has at last summoned the bottle to publish the new civil defence booklets designed to replace *Protect and Survive*, which was widely lampooned for its advice on whitewashing windows and "resuming normal activities" a few days after the nuclear attack. But the manner of the publication has been decided by Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's carrot-topped press secretary, and provides an object lesson in his brand of news management and media manipulation.

The Home Office, the Department of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture have all produced leaflets, and the natural way might have been for them each to produce their press material for the launch day. That, indeed, was what each department planned to do. But Ingham considered that a conventional approach, like this would offer the media too much time and opportunity to snipe, and in he stepped. After talking ministers round to his way of thinking, he decreed that the news of the publication will be given in parliamentary answers to a question asked next Friday. At that time, of course, MPs will be on their way home, newspapers will be up against the weekend, and by Monday it will be old news. A hoary trick, but a good one.

THE Belgian postal authorities have recently issued a commemorative stamp whose design has turned out to be unfortunate. It commemorates a century of football and pictures a player in a red strip.

WE'VE HAD buttons up noses and cockroaches in ears, so now for the coup de grace — ladybirds in gums. The British Dental Journal carries a letter about a baby which doctors thought had a tumour in its mouth: "a hard, oval, orange-coloured object apparently erupting from the labial aspect of the gum of the lower jaw in the incisor region firmly, attached to the alveolus."

The infant was handed on to the dentist and the alleged ectopic tooth was dislodged with a probe, leaving intact, slightly inflamed, gums beneath it. It was quite obviously the wing covering of a ladybird, confirming the accuracy of the mother's diagnosis and causing some embarrassment all round. The firmness of the adhesion of the wing case must have been due to its concave shape, causing it to act like a sucker.

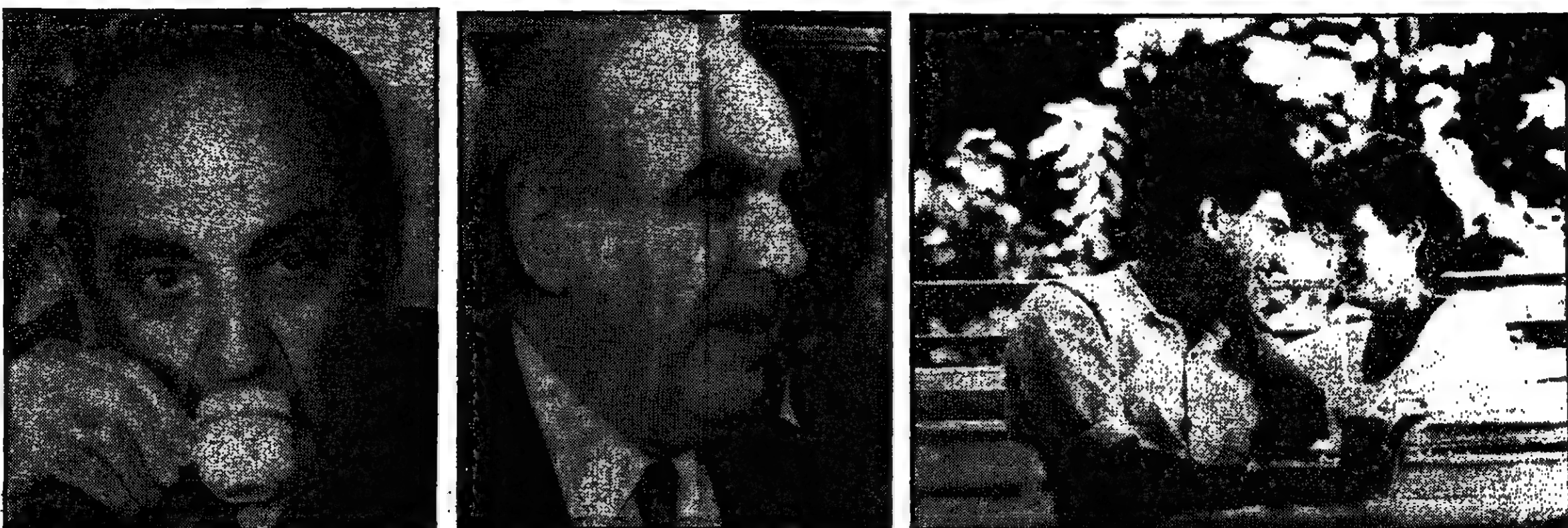
There's also a rather upsetting photograph you could show to your offspring when they're molesting wildlife in the garden.

TAM DALYELL, scourge of our great leader, offered an alternative angle in a speech at a school in Scotland yesterday. One of the banners discarded on the terraces, he said, read: "Alan Hansen eats a Dago a day." Where did that idea come from except from the Falklands, asked Dalzell in London. The great leader was having none of it — does she ever? Her line was that the violence in Northern Ireland, on the picket line and among football hooligans is all the same, and the only thing that separates them is the prosperity of modern society. "Furious" Terry Dicks MP, however, says she's pussyfooting. "Corporal punishment is the only thing these sub-humans understand," he storms.

PEACE NEWS ("for non-violent revolution") is not a wealthy publication and cannot afford to turn away advertising, even if it disagrees with it. But in the current issue, it has done the next best thing. Opposite a full-page ad from the Enoch Trust and Enoch's heritage centre, it has placed a large article by Dawn Solidarity, which claims "The Free Festival is on." It argues that the money being spent putting razor wire round the monument and paying police overtime should be used to prevent damage by providing firewood, toilets and rubbish skips. "Confrontational tactics are unlikely to encourage a trouble-free festival," writes Dawn.

AT MOLESWORTH cruise missile base in Cambridgeshire a young man is clearing splashed concrete from the bottom foot of Commander Hestelme's brand new perimeter fence, using a compressed-air tool called a scabbler. R. P. Phillips, the director of a construction company, spoke to him recently and found he was completing about five yards a day. A quick punch on the calculator tells us that, at this rate, it will take him nearly 11 years to complete the task. For the first half day, he'd only had a hammer and chisel. "I do not think the concern of corrosion of the fence," says the director. "Is this work as pointless as digging and filling in holes?"

Stephen Cook



Top: Jervois at a Pasok rally in Salonika. Above: the rivals, Constantine Mitsotakis (left) and Andreas Papandreu, and young voters with more important concerns than the elections

CAMPBELL PAGE in Athens on the eve of the Greek elections. DON McPHEE took the pictures

A battle for the shifting middle ground

ONE of the most complex events in Greek politics since the collapse of the military regime in 1974, has been the disappearance of the old centre. Known as the Centre Union, it had been the political home of the two main rivals in tomorrow's general election, Mr Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister and leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) and Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of New Democracy.

Capable of winning parliamentary majorities before the 1967 coup, the centre fell to 20 per cent and then 12 per cent of the vote in the first two general elections after the restoration of democracy. By 1981, when Pasok came to power, the old centre had virtually disappeared.

Both Mr Papandreu and Mr Mitsotakis come, as one politician expressed it, from "the same political nest" in the Centre Union, and their antipathy is as intimate as a family feud. Their speeches and policy statements in this campaign help to explain why the old centre vanished.

New Democracy, founded

in 1974 by the former Conservative leader Mr Constantine Karamanlis, had never cherished the Conservative label. Its present ideological manifesto describes the party as progressive and its vision of Greece's future as radical and liberal.

A senior member of the party suggested recently that Centre-Right or, even better, Liberal-Conservative would be the most accurate description. A thoughtful Pasok supporter characterised the party, in spite of its early claims to be a national liberation movement and its taste for Marxist analysis, as Centre-Left with the emphasis on the Centre.

The disappearance of the old centre becomes even less mysterious when one recalls how the whole political spectrum shifted to the left in 1974.

Mr Karamanlis had gone into self-chosen exile in Paris in 1963. Mr Papandreu had left Greece at the beginning of 1968 when released from detention by the military regime. Both men had time to reflect on the factors which had enabled the colonels to seize

power, and to think about what should be done when democracy was re-established.

When political life resumed in July 1974, Mr Karamanlis quickly recognised the Communist, enforced a partial Greek withdrawal from NATO, and organised a referendum which abolished the monarchy. New Democracy was something different from the old image of the monarchist, Communist-baiting, Cold-War-minded Right.

In the free political market which existed in 1974, Mr Papandreu launched a new movement with a sweeping radical rhetoric which seemed to ignore at its own peril the old political landmarks. The innovation succeeded because Pasok had a political constituency waiting to be enlisted. There were votes to be picked up on the left and from the old centre, but there was something else.

In his essay on political parties in post-junta Greece, Mr Christos Lyritsis quotes from an article written by Mr Papandreu in 1975.

Pasok, it seemed, was ap-

pealing less to a class as defined by a sociologist than to a category which was invited to define itself: the underprivileged: more precisely those who felt underprivileged. Mr Papandreu included in their ranks "farmers, workers, employees, craftsmen, and artisans, youth, and all the people who are subject to odious exploitation by modern monopolistic capital, local as well as foreign."

They were also people who believed that the old political elites, whether of the centre or the right, had given orders from on high. Sometimes the politicians had fixed small favours, but they had not asked, "What do you really want?"

Greece had a social structure out of step with most of Western Europe: a small number of the very rich, an underdeveloped middle class, a mass of small peasant proprietors, small businessmen and shopkeepers, and the bulk made up of employees and workers. The drift from the land to the cities, the weakening of social ties, and the onset of consumerism were particularly unsettling.

They left plenty of people interested in a new kind of politics.

Mr Papandreu has not forgotten the swollen ranks of the underprivileged. Last weekend, in a campaign speech in Salonika, he said: "We have often declared that for Pasok there are no rightist, centrist or leftist working people. There are no rightist, centrist or leftist non-privileged Greeks who do not have the same problems, the same needs and aspirations, both in the city and the village. We are united by the social origin and reality of the old Right, while Pasok seeks to exploit those historical traumas in order to retain its centrist support."

The floating vote, estimated as 15 per cent of the electorate, will be decisive in this general election. That figure includes all those who, after voting for Mr Karamanlis, the stabilisation of the new democratic regime in the first two elections after the collapse of the junta, thought it was time to give Pasok a mandate for change in 1981.

In the opinion of one Pasok analyst, the party can

drive Pasok away from the middle ground and to fix the party in more exotic terrain.

"I understand Mr Papandreu when he is disturbed by the word liberal... for he considers liberalism as a bourgeois ideology. Third Worldish and Marxist visions want the Greek to be a servant of the state. It is only a natural that Mr Papandreu should fear freedom," he said.

New Democracy, in its own estimation, is trying to free centrist voters from their complexes about the image and reality of the old Right, while Pasok seeks to exploit those historical traumas in order to retain its centrist support.

Naturally, Pasok is trying to expel New Democracy from the middle ground and to label it as the old Right hiding behind liberal pretensions.

Mr Mitsotakis has criticised Mr Papandreu for condemning a large proportion of the Greek electorate as traitors to the nation because they support New Democracy. He has also tried to

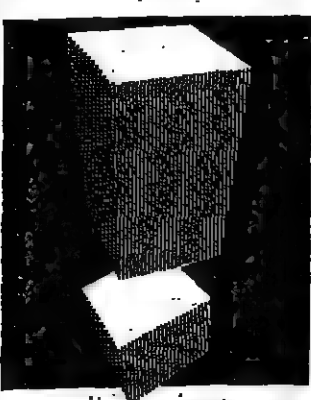
claim solid achievements in social reform. It inherited a slow-moving bureaucracy and made some errors of judgment, although its mistakes were often bad manners rather than misguided aspirations. It has begun its programme of change and deserves another term to re-order the political and social context of Greek life.

Mr Mitsotakis, as many of his opponents concede, has fought a shrewd campaign. His attack on the legality of the presidential election in March enabled him to wound the Government and to galvanise his own party. His plan to challenge — and if possible oust — the new President may, however, discourage voters who shrink from a period of constitutional and political turmoil.

While Pasok's critics see tomorrow's election as a battle between authoritarianism and moderation, Pasok regards it as a struggle between reform and reaction. That is why Greeks, under the shadow of the disputed presidency, describe it as one of the most crucial elections in modern Greek history.

time either as "Gert and Daisy" or "the two old dears." They gave me a group photograph of the first Labour Government when I became a member of Jim Callaghan's Cabinet.

I went to the club on the night that I was promoted and Jack Webster stood on a rickety chair and told the members that there was a Secretary of State drinking with them — and the men in cloth caps leaning on the bar turned round and asked me who the visitor was. There have been fewer and fewer such men leaning on the bar during the last ten years. Jeans are now more common than donkey jackets and beards are replacing the brick red complexion of life in the great half-built-outdoors. These days we are all far too sensible to sling an election banner across the Strand Road, lower than the top of a double-decker bus. And we usually close on time. In a month or two we will close the great gazebo for ever. Bid me strike a match and blow.



Roy Hattersley

THE LIFE of the Sparkbrook Labour Club is drawing peacefully to its close and that is quite the wrong way for a Labour Club to go. Last orders

ought to be called with a bang, not a whimper. But that is not the way in which old Labour Clubs die. They simply fade away. Or at least they move to better premises. That is the intended fate of Sparkbrook Labour Club when — thanks to the changing times and the demands of the City Council — human life as we know it is finally extinguished at 240 Stratford Road.

The committee's determination and a low interest rate mortgage, supplied by a local brewery, will almost certainly combine to create a new club in another part of Sparkbrook, complete with neon sign and wall-to-wall carpet. But I echo the lines which Rupert Brooke would have written had he ever composed a threnody for a couple of dilapidated Victorian Houses which have been knocked together to make room for a bar and a pool table. "The best I've known stays here, breaks, grows old, is blown about the winds of time" — or, in

other words, is demolished as part of a road widening scheme.

Even without the council and the proper Birmingham demand for wider roads, the club would close before the next budget increased the price of beer again. The tide of drought Guinness and best bitter on which it once so gloriously floated has gone out. The working men who once leaned on its bar have either moved south to the salubrious world of hot bar snacks and piped music or can no longer afford the price of a pint. And there is no profit to be made from the pious Muslim trade of orange juice and Coca-Cola. The crisp packets still fall in the back yard like autumn leaves in Vallumbrosa. But the crowded glory has gone, leaving only stables on the floor to remind us of what used to be.

The club came to Sparkbrook years before I arrived. In those days it was no more than a single ter-

race house and in the big back garden a shed where the beer was sold. There was a lodger on the first floor called Joxer. Until I joined the Sparkbrook Labour Club, I thought that Joxer was a name which had been invented by Sean O'Casey. Now I know that O'Casey only described what he saw. I have met in that club a hundred Joxers — strong women with rough hands who balance the family's budget and flatter their husbands with the pretence that it is natural for men to be heads of households. I have been told stories of Larkin and the Post Office on Easter Sunday, and I have been taught why the plough and the stars are inseparable symbols of the Irish aspiration.

I was carried shoulder high into the club on the night that we won Sparkbrook back from the Conservatives. And my enthusiastic beavers banged my head on the great iron girder which supported the roof of the old hut in which we drank to the new Labour

Government's health. Nobody apologised or expressed the slightest concern about the lump on my forehead. It was assumed that elation eased the pain. But soon afterwards, Councillor Barney Downey began the conversion of the house and we moved both the beer pumps and the whisky apries into what then seemed to be permanent premises. Two years later the hut burned down. Despite the bump and lump I mourned its passing.

My political past is disintegrating, with the assistance of raiding parties of local youths. The rest of the terrace in which the club once stood has already been demolished. And now that it stands like a broken stump left solitary after the extraction of its neighbouring teeth it has proved an irresistibly lonely attraction for vandals and thieves. At first they just stole the bottles from behind the bar and the money from the cigarette machine. Then they took the doors. We could have offered a reward for information

leading to the conviction of men observed running from the scene of the crime carrying what used to prevent the Labour Club from being open plan. But Irishmen are sensitive about their reputation. So I simply sit in my Saturday morning advice bureaux looking out from the back room into the bar and staring down the cellar steps.

When they stole the doors, the burglars smashed the glass that protected the old election posters with which we decorated one wall. But the posters — ironically portraying the once — once never-to-be-repeated years of inter-war poverty — were unharmed. They will pass on with us to the better life. So will the portraits of Martin Luther King and the Irish patriots, the life membership certificate presented to Jack Webster (the club's founding father) and the scroll of merit and special respect awarded to the Sparkbrook Labour Party's longest serving sisters — known affectionately during their life-

Not quite a re-run of the Heath boom, but very little hope for the unemployed



SATURDAY NOTEBOOK

DOES Britain face a new bout of inflation, fuelled by an out-of-control money supply? Or have the scare stories about the past couple of weeks been just that? There have even been some suggestions that we are back in the situation of the early 1970s, when the Heath government did allow the

money supply to burst out of control. Anyone who thinks back and remembers the way house prices shot upwards, and more soberly—how afterwards a large number of property companies went bust, taking with them the fringe banks which had lent them money, could see some sort of parallel. But it is a superficial one.

At the moment house prices are indeed rising fast, but not by anything like the pace of the early 1970s. They are rising, at most, by perhaps 15 per cent a year, not the 20 or 40 per cent a year of 1972. And though one fringe bank did indeed have to be rescued by the Bank of England, the case, and not the forerunner of other collapses. Besides, its loan losses were to be forgiven, not to be forgiven. But if it is fairly easy to reject the more extreme view about the threat of renewed inflation, it is difficult not to accept that there are a number of worrying developments which look like lumbering the country with high interest rates for some months to come.

These developments co-exist, sadly, with still-rising unemployment figures. What are they and how can this be? The best place to start is the obvious one: the money supply figures themselves. There are officially two measures on money supply, which are both given equal weight by the Treasury. One is the well-established measure of sterling M3 which basically measures all the money in the country's bank accounts and the new measure of M0 (called 'nought, not M oh) which measures the money in bank tills.

The City only really takes any notice of what is happening to sterling M3, partly because it is used to doing so, and partly because it (or rather most of it) thinks that M0 is a silly indicator,

chosen because the Chancellor thought it would be easier to control than a wider measure. The Bank of England, the other custodian of money supply, tends to agree with the market. It likes sterling M3, and though it cannot obviously say so, dislikes M0.

At the moment, sterling M3 is running above its target range: it is up 12½ per cent on the year, against a target of 5 to 9 per cent, while M0 is inside the target range: up 6 per cent against 3 to 7 per cent.

From this you might argue, as indeed the Chancellor has done, that though growth is a bit too fast, there is no question of it being out of control. One measure is all right; the other not. But interest rates are high, and in as far as the exchange rate provides a cross-check, to monetary conditions, the reasonably strong sterling too would confirm that things are not too bad.

To be sure, inflation is running close to 7 per cent, as measured by the retail price index compared with a forecast of 5 per cent at the end of this year. But you could argue that this is the temporary result of the collapse of sterling at the beginning of the year, now reversed, and the subsequent sharp rise in the mortgage rate.

But despite all that, the City does remain worried. There are probably two reasons for this. The first is that no one in financial markets really trusts the money supply numbers. This is not because they feel the Bank and the Treasury are fiddling them. It is because the whole structure of British finance is changing so quickly, that any figures have become suspect.

For example, the building societies are behaving more and more like banks. Yet their deposits are not included in the money supply figures. They are included in

a still wider measure of money, called private sector liquidity 2. (There may be a PSIL, but no one ever talks about it.) Now, PSIL has been rising very fast indeed. It was up nearly 18 per cent in the last year; if that were a better reflection of the underlying growth of money supply than the regular targeting of numbers, then things would be very worrying indeed.

The second reason why the City is worried is because of the behaviour of the real economy. At the moment it is clearly growing quite fast, but some of this growth results from a catching-up after the miners' strike. If you were for the moment to ignore the unemployment figure and look at things like retail sales, import, wages growth, share prices and so on, you would feel that we were in the middle of a rip-roaring boom.

Indeed, even employment is now rising quite fast. The economy is creating more

jobs, but the labour force is rising faster.

Moreover, by world standards our inflation performance is not now very good. Germany's inflation is running at 2½ per cent; Japan much the same; the US about 3½ per cent.

We tend to think that getting inflation down has been a particular achievement of the Conservative Government, and it is true that a couple of years back we were doing better than average on that score. But now we are in the second half of the decade, the fall in inflation has been a world phenomenon, not a British one.

In world economics, it is relative performance that matters as much as absolute performance. In world terms we are not doing that well.

How should one reconcile the fairly sober view taken of things in the City, with the more bombastic tone of the Chancellor?

Perhaps the most helpful thing to say is that given the

current level of British interest rates, which in real terms (that is, allowing for inflation) are very high, it is difficult to see prices running away out of control. And interest rates not been increased in the spring the worry would have been much greater. But, somehow, a brake has been kept on price rises, and that means that there will be little opportunity for a significant fall in interest rates this year.

That is not a disaster. Indeed, were interest rates to come down too fast we would risk the sort of de-inflationary boom that the Heath government had to face. There are policies which the government might take to try and feed in more demand, and these may well be particularly needed in the recession. But letting the money supply rip is not one.

Hamish McRae

Government agency reveals £300m dockyard scheme

Chatham new town plan to bring 5,000 jobs

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

The Government's English Estates agency yesterday announced an ambitious plan to develop the former naval dockyard at Chatham on the Medway, creating 5,000 jobs over the next decade, but most of the responsibility is being left to the private sector.

Announcing the plan, which has still to be formally approved by the three local authorities concerned, English Estates project director, Mr Ian Parker, said that the scheme to create what amounts to a miniature town on the site would cost £300 million.

The bulk of this would come from private companies although the Government is to provide funding totalling £20 million as a catalyst to entice private sector capital. Over half of the government funds will be devoted to improving the infrastructure of the site, including building a transport system.

In addition, English Estates has applied for the site to be classified as an Enterprise Zone to allow developers to obtain the tax and rates benefits attached to this status.

The jobs created at the £300

acre site if English Estates target is attained will not fully compensate for the 6,000 redundancies resulting from Chatham's closure in 1984, which has led to a 16 per cent unemployment rate in the area.

The 380 acres administered by English Estates will embrace housing, offices and factory space if the agency's plan is fulfilled, while at the heart of the project is a proposed yacht marina.

On the adjacent 80 acres controlled by the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, it is planned to build a living museum whose exhibits would include replicas ships, reconstruction of an 18th century street, and possibly a life-size model of HMS Victory, Nelson's flagship, which was built at the yard.

The main site is also scheduled to incorporate a primary school as well as full recreational facilities and a shopping centre.

Companies moving there would include offices relocating, probably from the heart of London, and on the industrial front, high-tech and late assembly companies, Mr Parker said.



A desolate scene that could soon see new industry

Posgate appeal decision

By our City Staff

Lloyd's most controversial underwriter, Mr Ian Posgate, has received the result of his appeal against the market's penalty of life expulsion.

Lord Wilberforce's judgment, which has yet to be received by the Lloyd's council, is widely believed to be in Mr Posgate's favour and could pave the way for his eventual return to underwriting.

It is now up to the Lloyd's council to make the result public. But Mr Ian Davison, Lloyd's chief executive, said yesterday the council had not yet received the verdict of Mr Posgate's appeal against the findings of the disciplinary committee hearings.

If Mr Posgate is cleared of any of the charges brought by Lloyd's then Lord Wilberforce may have the power to overturn the committee's recommendation that Mr Posgate should be banned for life. But if the sentence is upheld then it will have to be ratified by a special Lloyd's council meeting, which needs a three week notice to be called. The council meets next Tuesday.

Mr Posgate is often described as the most dynamic underwriter in Lloyd's history, was expelled for life on the grounds that he had accepted gifts of paintings and a 10 per cent stake in the Banque du Rhone from Alexander Howden's chairman, knowing they were aimed at influencing his future underwriting. At the public appeal he told Lord Wilberforce he regarded the Pissarro painting as a "very, very generous present from a man who had been kind to me."

The Lloyd's disciplinary hearing against Mr John Watkinson, the former chairman of Minet Holdings, owners of the troubled PCW underwriting syndicates, is also believed to have been completed. The hearing, which had been cancelled three times, and was to have been held in public, ended a few days ago. Mr Watkinson was alleged to have been involved in the transfer of some £40 million of reinsurance arrangements from the PCW syndicates into offshore funds owned by PCW underwriters.

Sedgwick yesterday announced that it has agreed the sale of its managing agency activities handled by Sedgwick Forbes for £21.25 million, plus a further £1.25 million as a percentage of any profit commission earned in the underwriting years 1983 to 1989. This sale completes Sedgwick's investment plans.

NEWS IN BRIEF

JOHN Waddington, the Leeds-based printing group, which four of two takeover bids from Mr Robert Maxwell recently, yesterday turned acquiescent and bought Eyre & Spottiswoode, the commercial printing firm.

The famous name is continuing only £1.158 million. The accounts of Eyre & Spottiswoode show pre-tax profits of just £7,000 on turnover of £2.3 million in the 12 months to March 31, after exceptional costs of £191,000, but before group management changes. It is considered that there is substantial potential for increasing Eyre & Spottiswoode's profitability. The deal is being struck for £15,000 cash and the issue of 185,700 shares.

ROWACK, the international securities broker, has recruited Mr Clive Edwards from Merrill Lynch to head up its Japanese securities business. In January, Rowack, part of the Mercury Securities financial group, opened its Tokyo branch, and now plans to market make in 18 leading Japanese stocks.

A NEW financial institution backed 40 per cent by Grindlays Bank and Capel-Cure Myers, and 10 per cent by two Cambridge university colleges, opened for business in Cambridge this week. Cambridge Capital has been formed as an independent regional merchant bank and will provide corporate finance advice, issuing house services, and investment and funding services through its association with Grindlays Bank and Capel-Cure Myers.

THE final major asset of the holiday company, Court Line, which crashed in August, 1974, was sold today by the liquidator, Mr Guy Parsons, of accountants Pest Marwick. The Halcyon Days Hotel, situated on St Lucia in the transfer of some £40 million of reinsurance arrangements from the PCW syndicates into offshore funds owned by PCW underwriters.

BRITISH Aerospace yesterday signed a £118 million contract to supply China with ten 146 airliners. This contract, following a memorandum of understanding signed in April, is one of the largest ever concluded between China and the United Kingdom. Deliveries will commence in June, 1984.

American trade gap widens to \$45 bn

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The Commerce Secretary Mr Malcolm Baldrige said yesterday that the dollar has not fallen fast enough to have an impact on the US's still worsening trade position. His comments came as the Commerce Department reported a further widening in the US trade gap in April.

During the month imports outpaced exports by \$1.15 billion which means that over the first four months of the year the US trade gap has climbed 5.8 per cent to \$44.8 billion. The US's poor trade performance is widely blamed for the slowdown in the US economy.

There was further evidence of this yesterday when it was reported that orders at America's factories fell 0.5 per cent in April, the third consecutive decline. With demand in the US industrial sector under pressure many firms appear to be cutting back on their expansion plans.

The US dollar has dropped some 7 per cent against a basket of the currencies of America's major trading partners since late February. However, despite this fall there are no signs as yet that the trend to even bigger trade deficits is being reversed.

"The dollar's decline so far is not enough to improve US competitiveness and should only have a limited effect on our balance of trade," Mr Baldrige said. His comments came just a fortnight after the

Federal Reserve Board cut its key discount rate half-point to 7.5 per cent in an effort to get industry moving again and encourage a decline in the value of the US currency.

The main factor behind the US's poor trading performance in April was a surge in the import of petroleum and sharp increase in the volume of Japanese cars entering the American market. The combination of lower interest rates, easier credit and an easing of the Japanese quotas for car imports to the American market is causing Tokyo's trade surplus with the US — which reached \$35 billion last year — to widen.

This is likely to lead to a resurgence of protectionist pressure when Congress returns next week.

After early gains the dollar slipped back on the US economic figures which prompted speculation that American imports to the American market would fall again.

The dollar climbed to about 3.0960 against the German DM but after the downward revision in the US durable goods figures for April slipped back. By the close it was down 2.5 pence to 3.0950.

Sterling also reversed its trend against the dollar finishing up 1.7 cents at \$1.2665. The pound traded firmer against all the main European currencies and ended up at 9.5855 against the DM. The effective index against the basket of currencies improved 0.4 to close at 80.3.

Gettys agree on \$4 bn trust fund

THE FEUDING Getty oil family, whose court battles have been described as a sequel to the "Dallas" television series, yesterday found they could agree on one thing — how to share \$4 billion.

Before a battery of lawyers representing the 26 living Getty heirs, Superior Court Judge Richard Byrne signed a conditional settlement that will allow the family to share the \$4 billion trust, to be divided into four smaller trusts, each to be headed by a family member.

The trusts will each have about \$750 million. Gordon Getty, an amateur composer and operatic benefactor once castigated by his father, the late billionaire Paul Getty for being immature about the oil business, will give up his role as sole trustee.

The last hold-out among the lawyers, Seth Hufstader, who represented 77-year-old Tara Getty, a nephew of Gordon Getty, yesterday changed his mind and said he had decided the settlement would help promote family harmony.

The original trust fund

LRC backs dipstick test

By Andrew Cornelius

LRC INTERNATIONAL, the Durac contraceptive company, is backing a new "safe period" test which could help thousands of childless couples and also prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Mr Alan Wolfe, chairman of LRC, said that the "dipstick" urine fertility test could generate sales of over £300 million each year throughout the world.

LRC hopes to market the new product before Unipath, the Bedford-based subsidiary of the giant Unilever corporation, markets its combined micro-computer and dipstick fertility test.

LRC is investing \$650,000 in a development programme by the joint venture Biochemics, a biotechnology company. Although it is expected to lead to the sale of the new fertility test in high street chemist shops within the next three years.

LRC sees the project as a logical extension of its existing role as a leading company in the family planning products market.

Mr Wolfe said that LRC will fund the research and development programme and contribute a further \$100,000 to start manufacturing the new test.

Women using the new test will be able to check their own period of fertility using a dipstick which changes colour when in contact with urine.

LRC estimates that there is a \$300 million a year worldwide market for a test which identifies a fertile period for conception. Couples suffering from fertility problems. If the Catholic Church were to approve the new test as a natural means of family planning the market could be worth \$1 billion.

Television South plans to broadcast a programme on the new test on Monday evening.

Boots-Celltech is a joint venture company established 20 months ago and with monthly sales of £30,000. It hopes to have a hospital laboratory test available to couples next year.

The cash call is for 2.5 million shares on a one-for-four basis at 600p per new share. This represents a discount of some 15 per cent against the shares, which trimmed back 7p to 639p on the news.

Union's chairman, Mr Alexander Ritchie, confirmed that the group believed that about £20 million capital would be

Reardon Smith collapses after heavy losses

By Andrew Cornelius

Reardon Smith Line, the Cardiff-based shipping company, is to cease trading after 80 years, in the wake of continuing losses.

The collapse of the company had been foreshadowed on Thursday when trading in the company's shares was suspended on the Stock Exchange. More than 160 employees will be thrown out of work and the company's remaining four ships will be sold to help pay off debts.

Mr Charles Chatterton, the chairman, blamed the collapse on "substantial losses which are being incurred on the company's bulk carrier operations and the recent dramatic deterioration in ship values."

"Unfortunately there is no indication of any significant improvement in freight rates or ship values which would justify the company continuing to trade," he said.

A special meeting of shareholders will be called within the next three weeks to wind up the company.

Speculation had raged for several months in the City that the company had encountered problems in agreeing a £5 mil-

lion financing package with its bankers.

Reardon Smith is the latest shipping company to run into trouble because of the recession in world shipping markets. London Overseas Freighters and Lyle Shipping, two other UK shipping companies, have announced details of retrenching packages within the past year, while Trafalgar House and P&O, the giants of the industry, are busy discussing ways of rationalising their fleets.

Reardon Smith has suffered heavy losses from its joint venture involvement with Celtic Bulk Carriers, which last year lost \$8 million. These losses have contributed to pre-tax losses of \$2.8 million in the year to the end of March 31, 1983, and further losses of \$2 million in the latest half year to September 30, 1984.

Last night there was no indication of the extent of the group's debts. Details are likely to emerge at the special shareholders' meeting when a liquidator will be appointed. Barclays are bankers to the group and the Reardon Smith family, which founded the group at the beginning of the century, holds 30 per cent of the shares.

Cartier brings Dart holding to 7.6pc

By Maggie Brown

The former supermarket businessman, Mr Lewis Cartier, emerged yesterday as a 7.6 per cent shareholder in M.V. Dart, the sports equipment, Davies bicycle and packaging group.

But Mr Cartier, who failed last year with takeover bids for the Maynard sweets and zodiac toys group, and the Davies food store chain, denied that he had any takeover plans.

He said he had bought the shares as an investment and regarded Dart as a good recovery situation. The group is valued at about \$5.5 million.

Mr Paul Martin, chairman and chief executive of the firm, with a 12 per cent family stake, said the company "wants to remain as we are."

He had had no contact with Mr Cartier, said the share stake had been creeping up steadily over the past few months, moving up over the delectable five per cent stake this week. He pointed out that Dart was outside Mr Cartier's usual retail targets.

Mr Cartier's previous bids for Cullens and Maynard were \$2.5 million and \$3.5 million, which does put Dart within his price-bracket. And he has been tipped as a possible bidder for some time.

Dart made pre-tax profits of £201,000 on sales of £21.6 million, helped by property profits. The group derives 60 per cent of its turnover from packaging and 40 per cent from "consumer products" — including darts and dart-boards, hence the name.

New hope for more China trade

By John Hooper, Energy Correspondent

British trade officials are hoping that the visit to Britain by China's premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, will give a much-needed fillip to commercial relations between the two countries.

During the first quarter of this year, Britain's exports to China worth \$3.6 million — were running at about 18 per cent above the average for last year, and there are signs that orders are increasing. But Britain still sells less to China than to, say, West Germany and our performance in what is generally reckoned to be the world's fastest growing market is abysmal when compared with that of some of our rivals, notably West Germany.

One of the main stumbling blocks, as became apparent during the visit by the Minister without Portfolio, Lord Young, earlier this year, is the government's reluctance to extend "soft" loans. In recent weeks, however, the government has signalled its intention of bending its policy where necessary.

One of the most striking aspects of the premier's itinerary is the number of senior financial figures who have been invited to his most important encounter with British businessmen, which takes place on Tuesday.

They include Lord Richardson, the former Governor of the Bank of England; Mr Christopher McMahon, its deputy director; and Lord Limerick, chairman of the British Invisibles Exports Council. There were no financiers on Lord Young's delegation.

The president of the CBI and the chairman of Hawker Siddeley, Simon Engineering, ICI, British Aerospace, Cable and Wireless, and GEC, will also be present at the meeting which is to be chaired by the head of the Sino-British Trade Council, Sir Peter Matthews.

The day before, the Vice-Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr Jia Shi, will be holding talks with the Trade Minister, Mr Paul Channon, while the premier is talking to the Prime Minister at No 10.

Merger hits snag

A merger plan for the steelmakers, Krupp Stahl, and Klockner Krupp, seems a big step towards streamlining the troubled industry, hangs in the balance due to political difficulties, one of the companies said yesterday.

The intended merger of the Krupp and Klockner steelmaking activities, with the Australian mining group CRA coming in as a third partner, was first announced last October. It would create West Germany's second largest steelmaker.

But Krupp's chief executive, Alfons Goedicke, called the plan into question when he said the merger depended on the outcome of talks that were still continuing. "Only then can we decide whether, under such conditions, the fusion plan can make economic sense."

The main obstacle is opposition by the Lower Saxony state government to the planned closure of a Klockner mill there, the loss of 2,000 jobs. Goedicke made clear that the link-up could not go through unless the plant, at Georgsmarienhütte, were shut.

Solutions must be found in the political arena, he said. The closure also poses a delicate problem for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic government in Bonn, which, together with regional states affected, has to decide whether to grant the new firm aid of DM350 million (£87 million) wanted by its owners.

While Bonn has welcomed the merger as strengthening the industry, analysts say it cannot ignore the political implications of job cuts where the incumbent CDU government faces elections next year.



Gordon Getty

COMPANY BRIEFING

Hill Samuel tops City forecasts

Hill Samuel romped away with one of the best sets of results from the merchant banks this season with profits up nearly a third and well above City forecasts.

A strong performance by the merchant bank banking activities helped push pre-tax profit up to £22.3 million compared to just under £22 million in the year to March. After adjusting for the recent rights issue there is a 14 per cent rise in the total dividend to 155p but the shares slipped back 5p to 288p.

Hectic takeover and rights issue activity in the bank's corporate finance section was the real money spinner behind the profit rise from the merchant bank to £22.3 million compared with £18.9 million while Hill Samuel never formally breaks down the bank's activities from the corporate finance business rose by around 30 per cent.

During the year the bank handled 22 takeovers, 10 stock market flotations, including the Jaguar sale, and 12 rights issues, some £1.3 billion worth of business.

As Hill Samuel celebrated the fifth year of record results its gilt-men were being interviewed by the Bank of England for the bank's application to become a primary dealer in the new-style gilt market.

If successful in its application Hill Samuel aims to commit between £10 and £20 million to the new gilt market.

lion to the new gilt group

and does not, like many of the other potential players, believe it can even hope to talk about carving out a 10 per cent market share.

Integration with its stock-broking arm, Wood MacKenzie, is proceeding well and new offices are being built alongside the bank. Mr. Castleman said the bank's market-making activities will be carried out in two stages. Between £15 million to £20 million of capital will be made available for Wood Mac's market-making activities, which will concentrate on the special-interest equity section.

Over the year Hill Samuel increased its permanent share capital by £20 million by the perpetual floating note and the rights issue. The bulk of the £70 million left after last year's acquisitions will go to the gilt and equity operations but the balance will be used for any new acquisitions.

The interim dividend remains at 15p, covered almost twice by earnings. Because of the warning about the immediate outlook the shares lost 5p to 284p.

The directors warn that mining equipment profits will drop in the second half because of the reappraisal being undertaken by the NCB. The seasonal and marketing improvements to be expected in the other divisions in the remainder of the year will keep profit ahead of last year's £7 million.

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disappointment but the drive for a higher market share continues.

Although the Powerlite Generator offshoot in Australia made a loss, the rest of the engineering activities, including toy manufacturing more than offset it and there was a £483,000 turnaround to a £222,000 profit from these miscellaneous operations.

Overseas sales were promising but the stronger pound was beneficial in view of the high level of dollar borrowing. Altogether debt rose by half to £18.5 million over the period, so lower interest rates would be welcome.

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Strong pound helps gilts

THE MARKETS

US economic indicators suggesting that growth is slowing and that interest rates may fall upset the dollar and prompted renewed strength in sterling. As a result gilts rose another half-point and the Government Broker issued \$800 million of new 'taplets' to replace two that ran out on Thursday.

Equities presented a very ragged picture at the end of the long Whitsun holiday account, but generally rose on the back of the dollar's recovery. Recent high-flying speculative favourites retreated on profit-taking, but companies reporting in the next few weeks were in demand.

Early news of a £14.4 million cash call from Union Discount coupled with losses over the last four months sent a shudder through the sector. Union lost 5p to 685p, while others recovered 2p to 70p.

Electricals remained nervous on defence cut worries, with Plessey particularly vulnerable at 142p, down 6p, on rumours of cutbacks at the US Stromberg subsidiary.

Movements in other leaders rarely exceeded 5p in either direction, but Boots were weak at 185p, down 10p, on further consideration of Thursday's lacklustre results. Other stores succumbed to end-of-account selling, but there was a trend on takeover hopes.

Among companies reporting soon Reed International stood out with an 18p jump to 602p. The results are scheduled for next Wednesday.

There was plenty of activity on the takeover front. United Wire spurted 46p to 195p on news of an approach by Major Oils made a brighter showing, but explorers tended to fall sharply.

There was some cheerful news from company meetings. Bestobell, for example, a dull market recently due to problems overseas, recovered 21p to 241p as the chairman told the AGM that the company is operating profitably and should show a marked improvement this year.

Breweries and buildings made selective progress. Banks hardly stirred from their overnight levels. Life companies improved and brokers did well. Composites languished and money brokers lost ground. Gold shares fell 60 cents to £1.

A cheerful statement at the annual meeting of the boosted gilt and Harvey 5p to 157p. Marley, following a recent broker's profits downgrade, lost 1p to 834p. Comment lifted Trest Holdings 2p to 89p. Tiltbury Group, a recent takeover favourite, firmed 10p to 135p. Good figures recently helped APV Holdings to a further 5p rise, to 283p. Brammer, awaiting moves in the three-cornered bid fight with Buntal and Evershed Services and Electronics, slipped 15p to 358p. Buntal lost 10p to 450p and Energy Services 2p to 110p.

British Aerospace, backed support after rises during the week, down 5p to 385p. Dobson Park Industries came in with profits at the top end of expectations but warned about prospects for the second half. Sterling Index 80.3 (1975 = 100). RPI 273.5 (April) up 6.3 per cent on year.

FT Ordinary Share Index down 2.1 to 1,002.5. S&P 100 down 1.7 to 1,131.9. Pound: £1.2855; DM 3.55; Fr 12.04. Gold: \$316. Account: May 13 to 31. FT All Share Index down 0.71 to £24.12. Sterling Index 80.3 (1975 = 100). RPI 273.5 (April) up 6.3 per cent on year.

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Equity turnover for May 30 was: number of bargains 20,881, value £338.6m.

Paris: Selling late in the session wiped out earlier gains in relatively active trading. The market indicator was ahead only 0.2 per cent at the end of business after being up 0.6 per cent at the opening and advances and declines were evenly matched.

Frankfurt: For the tenth straight session, prices of West German shares reached new record highs in lively dealing. The Commerzbank index stood at 1,345.7, up 24.2 points.

Tokyo: Profit-taking prevented the market from bouncing to a new high. Nikkei 225 Index: 12,758.46 (12,790.27).

Hong Kong: Stocks closed lower on profit-taking. Hang Seng Index: 1,613.87 (1,621.66).

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UNIT TRUSTS

Unit	Price	Change
Amalgamated	124.4	+1.1
British	124.4	+1.1
Equity	124.4	+1.1
Income	124.4	+1.1
Property	124.4	+1.1
Worldwide	124.4	+1.1

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On taking up the company option

Company benefit schemes have come a long way since the day of the luncheon voucher. Christine Stopp considers the attractions of share option contracts

BUILDING SOCIETY save-as-you-earn schemes do not look so attractive for the basic rate taxpayer as they once did. But they may be worth looking at in the shape of SAYE share option contracts provided as an employee benefit by some companies. These schemes give you the chance to buy shares in the company you work for by means of a savings contract.

SAYE share option schemes are formal arrangements set up by the company in agreement with the Inland Revenue — you can't simply ask your employer if you can buy shares in this way if he doesn't have a scheme — and over four hundred companies at present offer options to employees. The majority are

fully listed on the Stock Exchange, which means there is an active market in their shares, information on the company is easy to get hold of, and share prices are quoted daily in the financial press.

Companies on the Unlisted Securities Market, or other unlisted companies, may also have share option schemes provided they can agree a method of share valuation with the Inland Revenue.

The schemes work as follows. Eligible employees apply for an option over a number of the company's shares. This means they have the right to buy the shares after five years at a price which is fixed at the time the option is granted.

Simultaneously, the employee agrees to open an account with a building society named in the scheme. A fixed monthly rate of saving between £10 and £100 agreed, and this is then deducted from the employee's salary or wages throughout the five-year period. The building society account remains the employee's property at all times, but if at the end of the five years he wants to exercise his option (that is, buy the shares at the price agreed), it is used to provide the purchase price.

Example	Option price per share	Share price	Profit per share
June, 1985	100p	150p	50p
June, 1990	100p	180p	80p

SAYE account:	£
£20 per month in building society over 5 years	1,200
Plus bonus of 14 monthly payments	280
Total available to buy shares	1,480
Number of shares bought at 100p	14.8
Profit on immediate sale of shares: (1,480 x 150p) - (1,480 x 100p)	740
Profit on sale as percentage of total outlay of £1,200	62%

There is an obvious advantage in exercising the option if the share price has risen in the intervening five years. You can buy the shares at the value originally stated and sell them immediately to realise your profit. There is no income tax to pay on this sort of gain, though it would be liable to capital gains tax. However, there is no CGT to pay if your total capital gains for the year fall within the exempt limit of £5,000 and you will be very lucky to make this sort of profit.

If you save for the full five years, a bonus equal to 14 monthly contributions is added to your savings. This is about the same as a com-

pound interest rate of 8.2 per cent, and is also tax free.

If you decide to exercise your option, you must do so within six months of the contract's expiry date. You may elect at the outset to have a seven-year instead of a five-year option. In this case, you stop saving after five years, but leave your savings with the building society. When the seven years are up, a bonus equal to 28 monthly contributions is added. You have to decide whether you want a five- or seven-year contract at the start; you can't change your mind half way.

If, after five years, the share price is not high enough to

make you want to exercise your option, you can choose between taking your savings or leaving them with the building society for the further two years, when they will still be eligible for the extra tax-free bonus.

You can also exercise your option in part, and use only a portion of your savings to buy shares. You have the six-month period after your contract expires in which to buy the shares; if you fail to do so in that time, you must forfeit the option.

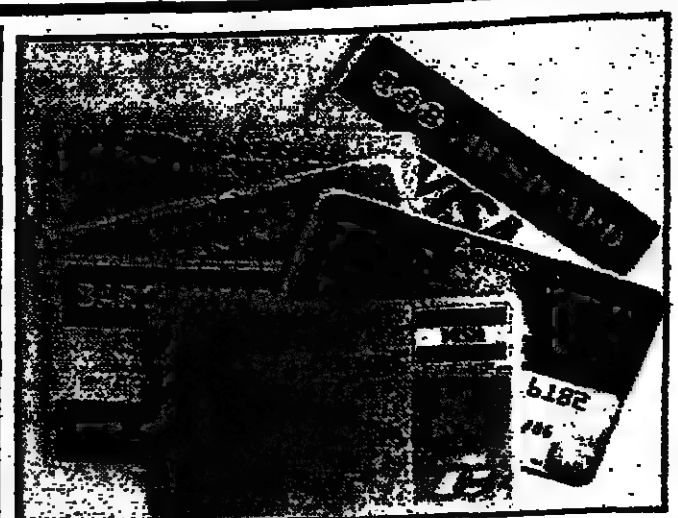
What if you want to stop saving, or leave the company? Once started, you cannot reduce your monthly contribution, but you can delay contributions provided the full amount is paid within five and a half years. If you want to stop altogether within a year of starting, your contributions will be returned with no interest. Between one and five years, interest will be calculated at a rate of six per cent a year. If you want to withdraw your money between the five- and seven-year bonus dates, you will get the five-year bonus, plus interest on bonus and contributions at six per cent a year, calculated from the five-year bonus date.

Option schemes will probably be most attractive to the

older employee who feels he is unlikely to change jobs in the short term, since the job changes, his options though the SAYE contract can be maintained. For anyone who leaves through ill health, injury or redundancy, or if the company ceases to be a part of the group, which has granted the options, the option can be exercised within six months of the leaving date.

The main question to ask yourself before applying for an option contract is, will the price of your company's shares be likely to rise over the period of the contract? Since 1980 the All-Share Index has done very well, in fact, the stock market has been doing so well for such a long period that it is hard to remind oneself that prices can fall.

On the market turns round at some point over the next five years, an option contract acquired now, when prices are high, may not look so good when you come to exercise it. You do, however, still have the backing of the SAYE scheme. The return on this may look quite respectable in five years' time for the basic rate taxpayer, and really comes into its own where the higher rate taxpayer is concerned, being beaten only by National Savings products over the same period.



Credit where it's scarcely due

Stanley Reynolds comes clean about his newly acquired habit of passing dud cheques

"JUST a moment, sir," the supermarket manager said, holding up my cheque and calling me back to the check-out. My heart skipped a beat, but the manager when you're passing dud cheques is to look natural, not meeky.

"You forgot to put in the amount in figures," he said. I could breathe again, even give a smile. He had spotted my deliberate error, but he had failed to see what was really wrong with my cheque. It is amazing the tricks you can get up to when you are passing bad cheques like I have been doing all round London and Oxford for more than a week now.

"Launching a kite" is what the sporting sort of chaps used to call it back round the cricket club. "A rubber cheque" is what they call it in the salacious parlance of those 1930s Hollywood films you watch on wet weekend afternoons, meaning that the cheque will bounce.

My cheques aren't rubber. They won't bounce. There is actually the money in the bank, or, at least, there was before I took up launching kites. Besides, the cheques are guaranteed up to £200 by the bank. It says so on the flashy new plastic cards the banks are issuing now. But there is a rub and rub is the word, for there is something else written on my plastic card.

It is the word "void". Or, rather, the words "void". Right behind my signature, which people like supermarket managers are supposed to study in Sherlock-fashion, it now says: "Void Void Void Void Void Void". Eleven times. I think there must be an even dozen voids lurking there, but the twelfth one has not been rubbed off by the normal wear and tear I have subjected the card to in the three or four months that I have had it.

These new, uniform cheque cards which all the banks started issuing a year or so ago and which are thought to be forger-proof are a complete dud. God knows how many of them the banks have issued, costing the Lord knows how much, but they are no bloody good. At least mine is dud and I cannot believe that I am the only person in all of Britain who has managed to remove the coating from his card and allowed all those "voids" to show through. But apparently I am; at least my bank says so.

"We've never encountered this before," my bank said. "Do you have one of these cards?" I asked, getting ready to demonstrate how easily it is to make your card so good so you cannot cash a cheque anywhere and so you are sneaking about like some kind of a criminal.

"No," the bank man said. "My old card has not run out yet." The idea of the voids is that when a crook steals your card and then attempts to remove your signature any water or rubbing he uses to remove the ink will make the voids appear.

Now the truth is that lots of people have the voids showing through on their cards. One chum said he had to send back two cards. One card got wet in a restaurant where a sloppy waiter got his hands on it.

So what we have here is something which cannot get wet and in a country known for its rain and its sloppy waiters.



"Your immediate superior will be our Mr Davidson, who will doubtless tax any respect you may earn."

Now this would seem to make the damned things useless. But not a bit of it. The truth is that it doesn't matter. My trick of creating a divergence to distract the supermarket manager's eye was not really necessary. I went round London all week and round Oxford all weekend launching kites and the fact that my cheque card was clearly no good, in fact, was void, made no difference whatsoever. One woman actually placed her finger over the voids while copying my number. And when one fellow actually did notice the word "void" written all over the thing, well, that was okay, too.

"It says 'void' here, sir," he said. And then he asked what exactly that meant.

This was in Oxford so I put on my best donnish voice and said, "Void? Why, void is the opposite of avoid, of course."

And another kite got launched.

If you can't understand an insurance proposal form you're probably not on your own. David Worsfold explains.

When plain English becomes a matter of form

FOR most of us, form filling is an activity to be avoided or at least kept to a minimum. We fill in the most important of forms grudgingly and, probably, without the care the task deserves. Insurance proposal forms are no exception.

The first problem is that the form is badly designed and the questions phrased in only partially intelligible mumbo-jumbo. Fortunately, many insurance companies now recognise the importance of design and language when putting forms together.

If you are presented with an insurance proposal form that

you do not understand you should give it back and ask for another form from another company that takes the trouble to make itself understandable to the public.

You might find that the salesman or broker will offer to fill the form in for you. If you let him, you must ensure that you check all the facts carefully because you will be responsible for any incorrect information, and this could seriously affect your insurance, even to the extent of invalidating it.

Indeed, the key to filling in an insurance proposal form is

to be honest, and put everything in. With a life insurance proposal form, for instance, there will be a question about your state of health. If your sum assured is not too high, it might be a single, simple question asking whether you have had hospital treatment recently. Don't take it on yourself to decide whether something was serious enough to warrant being declared, leave it to the insurance company whether to take note of it or not.

The same things apply to motor, household, and travel insurance. In these cases the

onus is placed even more firmly on you. It is not good enough to say that the proposals form didn't ask whether your thatched cottage is next to a petrol station after you have put a claim in for fire, because the law is on the side of the insurance companies in such cases and they might be entitled to disqualify the claim.

Similarly, if your circumstances should change while a particular insurance policy is in force then tell the insurance company. A common example is when a son or daughter starts to drive and

uses the family car. You should notify the insurance company before the car moves an inch with your offspring behind the wheel. If your son should drive straight into your neighbour's car you could find yourself with a large bill and an insurance company that has washed its hands of the situation.

Don't be afraid to ask why certain questions are included, and always read the general declaration and the small print. If something in the small print strikes you as odd, ask why it is there. Sometimes one company will impose certain conditions

that another company will not.

Exceptionally good advice is to keep a copy of the proposal form once you have completed it. Insurance companies do not give the form back after they have extracted the information for their computers. Indeed many companies actually keep a copy of the proposal form within a year of taking out the policy. If there is any subsequent dispute about what you actually declared on the form, your own photocopy would be the only evidence you have.

FRAMLINGTON

CAPITAL TRUST

A new opportunity to invest in a star performer

Framlington Capital Trust has long had a claim to be one of the best unit trusts ever launched: its consistent performance, its low charges and the way it has always been run combine to produce a very good unit trust indeed.

It was formed in January 1969 to invest for a combination of capital growth and modest income mainly through smaller British companies. It has always been managed by Bill Stuttford, now Framlington's Chairman.

Between January 1969 and 1st May 1985, the price of units rose 885 per cent, compared with 244 per cent for the FT All-Share Index.

Over ten years to 1st May it had by far the best performance of any unit trust. With net income reinvested, £1,000 on 1st May 1975 would have been worth £13,019 ten years later, 31 per cent more than the next best fund, which reached £9,905. The same investment in the FT All-Share Index would have grown to £6,517 (Source: Planned Savings).

The trust also produced a scintillating performance for regular savers. £20 per month over ten years to 1st May would have turned into £10,016 for an outlay of £2,400. Over 15 years £20 per month would have produced £23,734 for an outlay of £3,600, the best result for any unit trust.

Capital Trust's performance has been achieved in a particularly calm way by picking out British companies with good prospects of growth and tending to stay with them. The list of shares is longer than is conventional (there are currently 160). The amount of turnover is lower than average. This keeps the dealing costs low, which helps performance. Performance has also been helped by the lower than average annual charge of ½ per cent (+VAT).

Units are available in both income form (with distributions twice each year) and accumulation form (in which net income is reinvested).

On 1st May 1985 the price of income units was 164.2p (accumulation units, 193.0p). The estimated gross yield was 3.22 per cent.

HOW TO INVEST

You can buy units by completing the form below and sending it to us with your cheque. Units are allocated at the price ruling when we receive your order. The minimum investment for a lump sum is £500. There is a discount of 1 per cent for investments of £10,000 or more.

For the monthly savings plan, the minimum is £20 per month, with a discount of 1 per cent for contributions of £100 per month or more. Accumulation units are used and are allocated at the price ruling on the 3th of each month. To start your plan, complete the application and send it with your cheque for the first contribution. Subsequent contributions are by the direct debit mandate which we shall send to you for your signature.

Investors are reminded that the price

of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Framlington Capital Trust is an authorised unit trust constituted by Trust Deed. The Trustee is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Managers are Framlington Unit Management Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5NU. Telephone 01-628 5181.

Applications will be acknowledged. Certificates for lump-sum investments will be sent by the registrar, Lloyds Bank Plc, normally within 6 weeks.

Prices are published daily in The Times, Daily Telegraph and Financial Times.

The annual charge is ½ per cent (+VAT) of the value of the fund. The Trust Deed includes powers to increase this to a maximum of 1 per cent if necessary. The initial charge (included in the offer price) is 5 per cent.

When units are sold back to the managers payment is normally made within 7 days of receipt of the renounced certificate. Savings plans can be cashed in at any time.

Commission of 1½ per cent is paid to qualified intermediaries, but not on savings plans.

Distributions on income units are paid net of basic rate tax on May 15th and November 15th to unit-holders on the register two months previously. A report is sent at the time of the distribution. Savings plan statements are sent every six months.

Registered in England No. 895241. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5NU

LUMP SUM I wish to invest

£ in Framlington Capital Trust (minimum £500)

I enclose my cheque payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited, 1 am over 18. For accumulation units in which income is reinvested, tick here ☐

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss/Title)

Full first name(s)

Address

Signature

(Joint applicants should all sign and give details separately)

MONTHLY SAVINGS I wish to start a Monthly Savings Plan for

£ in Framlington Capital Trust (minimum £20)

I enclose my cheque for £ for my first contribution (this can be for a larger amount than your monthly payment). I am over 18.

Date

Signature

(Joint applicants should all sign and give details separately)

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FRAMLINGTON

IN BRIEF: Money in bricks and mortar

BUILDING society mania has shown no signs of relaxing since the first cuckoo behaviour was noted a month ago. Only this week the Abbey National hit the 11 per cent target offering this rate, tax paid, on sums of at least £10,000 tied up for 90 days. This is higher than any other middle or large sized society.

And, on the other side of the balance sheet, Bristol & West is advertising cheap personal loans for any purpose.

But still building societies are not taking in the money they need to meet mortgage demand. Provisional figures for May show that, in spite of the astronomically high savings rates, they have only attracted £550 million — well short of the broad £800 million a month needed and only £50 million more than in April.

The banks' high interest accounts are still proving the greater attraction: this week Barclays revealed that its Higher Rate Deposit account had taken in £1 billion since it was launched in March, and National Westminster has reached almost the same total.

The problem at this time of year is that customers' thoughts turn more seriously to saving for sunny holidays than saving for a rainy day. So the prospects for societies getting more, even into these glittering gold accounts, are slim over the next traditionally barren couple of months.

Special savings for retirement

LEGAL & General has come up with a new scheme for people saving for their retirement. The plan invests retirement savings in a number of building societies through a special tax free fund which gives them extra interest. It is available to the self-employed anyone not entitled to join a company pension scheme.

For a basic rate taxpayer currently paying £25 a month into an ordinary building society share account, the same investment in the Legal & General scheme would be worth £20, plus the tax free interest.

Anybody want a personal loan?

THE Bristol & West Building Society is a wash with funds to lend at the moment — to the extent of advertising personal loans for cars, holidays or any other no-questions-asked purpose. There is nothing in current legislation to stop them from doing this and indeed, when other societies have had the money in the past, there has been an under the counter market in further advances.

But money can only be lent to existing (or new) Bristol & West borrowers and there is no tax relief on the repayments. The rate of interest is 9 per cent above the basic mortgage rate, making an APR of 21 per cent over five years.

TOWN & COUNTRY BUILDING SOCIETY

Assets exceed £350 million. Over 300 branches and agencies. Member of the Building Societies Association and Investors Protection Scheme. Trustee status.

3 Years Super Term Shares

Balance £10,000 and over	10.75% NET	= 11.04%*	= 15.77%*
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Guaranteed extra 2½% above variable ordinary share rate. Monthly income available.

£500 - £9,999	10.50% NET	= 10.78%*	= 15.40%*
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Guaranteed extra 2½% above variable ordinary share rate. Minimum investment of £500. Monthly income minimum £1,000. Withdrawal at 90 days' notice and 60 days' loss of interest.

Super 90

30 days' notice or immediate withdrawal with the loss of 90 days' interest. No notice or penalty if balance is maintained over £10,000. Minimum investment of £500. Monthly income minimum £1,000.	10.25% NET	= 10.51%*	= 15.01%*
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Supershares

Essential Super 7 accounts now on Supershare terms. Immediate withdrawal with no penalty. Minimum investment of £500.	9.75% NET	= 9.99%*	= 14.27%*
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Moneywise Cheque Account & Visa Card

Immediate withdrawal with your own cheque book. Minimum investment £250. Balance £500.00 and over	10.50% NET	= 10.78%*	= 15.40%*
£10,000 - £19,999	10.25% NET	= 10.51%*	= 15.01%*
£2,500 - £9,999	9.50% NET	= 9.73%*	= 13.90%*
£250 - £2,499	7.00% NET	= 7.12%*	= 10.17%*

*Compounded annual rate when full half yearly interest remains invested. *Owing to income tax payers. All rates quoted are variable. Send the coupon now to: Town & Country Building Society, 215 Strand, FREEPOST, London WC2R 1ER. Or telephone 01-628 0881.

Please send full information about Town & Country accounts.

Name

Address

Postcode

G15

سكنا من الامل

Lindsay Cook on how to insure against the possibility of being doubly — or even triply — blessed

Two of a kind

THE birth of twins has fascinated mankind for centuries and has been responsible for much literature, mythology and a thriving insurance business.

Prospective parents bracing themselves for the financial onslaught of child-rearing are often anxious to cushion themselves against any risk there might be of a doubling of the burden. There is no way of covering the long-term extra cost of two mouths to feed and two bodies to clothe and accommodate but the initial shock can be eased and the double premium, extra layette and cot paid for by twins insurance.

The policies date back to the thirties when a Lloyds syndicate agent toured the doctors' surgeries of the East End, leaving leaflets that offered an insurance policy to parents who would find a second child a real hardship. Today his great nephew is a member of the same Lloyds syndicate and still offers the same cover, although the clients are much different, with some parents willing to pay several hundred pounds in premium to cover against a double event.

One American contacted the syndicate asking for 100,000 dollars cover, which would have cost a minimum of 3,500 dollars and probably a lot more, if the mother to be was of the age or background to be a higher risk.

The request was turned down because the policy is not designed to cover the life-long extra expense incurred, the syndicate did take on a £10,000 policy recently. His triplets been born the pay-out would have been £20,000. As it was, the pregnancy resulted in a single birth.

Eagle Star began offering twins insurance in the sixties and offer cover up to £10,000, which is also doubled in the event of three or more babies being born. Their customers are mostly middle class, with demand increasing in recent years and peaking after news of any multiple births. And while Eagle Star may cover after some family treatment, the Lloyds syndicate will not as they feel such help weighs against them.

In both cases the insurance must be taken out six months before the expected date of arrival and the parents must provide proof of that date.

The premiums start at the same level, £250 per £100 of cover by Eagle Star and £25 per £1,000 by the syndicate, which finds the average cover requested is in the £1,000 to £2,500 range.

The factors which influence the incidence of twins are taken into account by both organisations. A teenage mother-to-be, with no other children and no family history of multiple births, could insure at the lowest premium level, while an older woman who already had several children would find the price a lot higher.

Fraternally twins—non-identical ones—tend to follow patterns, with a twin father passing down the gene to his daughters and granddaughters. Identical twins occur at random and so the insurer has little help when anticipating the risk.

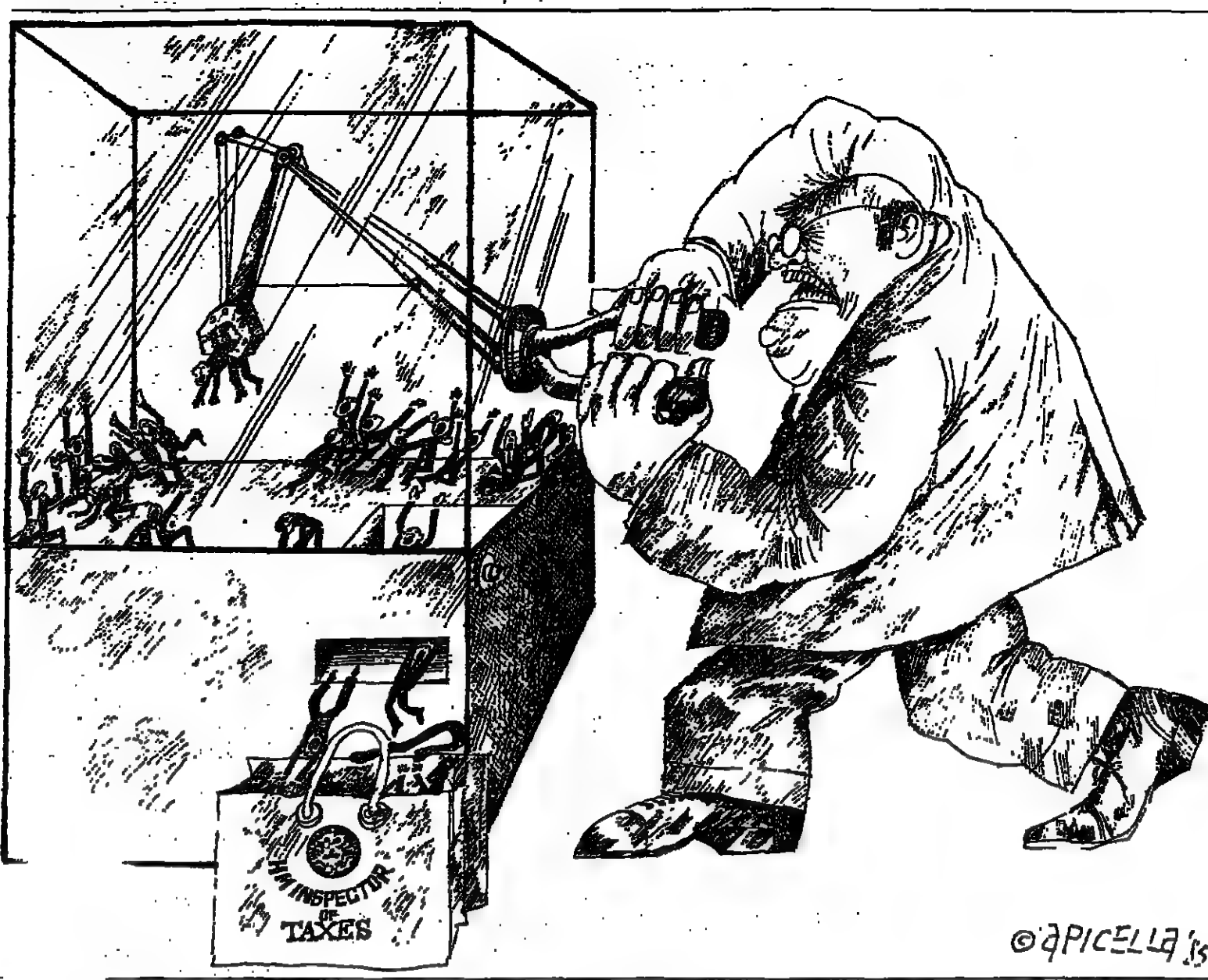
Twins are still thought of as a novelty—especially when they dress identically—but their occurrence is more frequent than most people would imagine, with one person in 80 having a twin brother or sister. Triplets are much rarer, only one person in 6,000 having two siblings with whom to share a birthday.

There may be a local support group for parents who are doubly or triply blessed but the local social services department may be unlikely to offer any help unless quadruplets are involved. And then it would only be in the very early months, as parents settled into a routine.

A few years ago the parents of quadruplets would automatically have had manufacturers and newspapers queuing up to be linked commercially with the babies and the wide use of fertility treatments now makes only sextuplets special enough for such interest.

When the twins or three of the triplets may be able to earn a contribution towards their keep in the film industry. Having two toddlers to play the part of one young child can help films to be completed more easily. It gets round the restrictions on the number of hours that can be spent in a studio and will replace an instant replacement if one child is not in a cooperative mood.

But of course the more children you have, the more costs to keep them. Insurance workers are well aware of this and they number prominently among those taking out policies. One recent claim for clefts dealt with by Eagle Star came from a member of the staff.



Mary Brasier on a surge of foreign interest in the Yuppie home loans market

Big lenders who like big spenders

"WE ARE after high net worth individuals who can substantiate a £40,000 mortgage," explained the man from the United Bank of Kuwait. Yuppies marketing apparently has reached even home loans. Banks, particularly foreign ones, have spotted a niche in the market providing finance for the young upwardly mobile executive who wants to borrow more than the building societies will readily lend.

Even if you do not recognise yourself as the "high net worth individual" there are other valid reasons for looking beyond traditional lenders for a mortgage. Foreign banks may not have quite the familiar ring that "I'm with the Woolwich" can convey, but they do have the funds.

While building societies prepare for the annual summer drought of mortgage money, there are banks which are cheerfully sticking "lenders available" signs in their windows. Many plan to increase their commitments substantially over the next few months. Citibank, for example, lent £256 million in 1984, and has now set a target for 1985 of £260 million. Bank of America is nearly doubling its lending to £200 million, putting it into the big league of lenders.

On the whole, banks and finance houses are prepared

to lend a higher multiple of salary. For example, Bank of America, Canada Permanent, Citibank and Lloyds offer three times the primary income and on the second day. If both borrowers are over 30, Citibank will lend 2.5 times the joint income. Security Pacific is another US bank offering 2.5 times joint income. Bank of America has also recently introduced a Select Plan for larger mortgages of £20,000 to £150,000 provided the higher income is at least £20,000 whereby they charge 0.5 per cent less than the standard rate.

These banks are particularly attractive to house buyers wanting larger mortgages. If your need for funds is not urgent and you are prepared to wait a year or so with a building society, they will on the whole prove cheaper for an average £20,000 loan. Although HFC Trust offers a standard 13.56 per cent rate for loans up to £70,000.

The more exotic lenders are worth considering if you need substantial funds because, in contrast to almost all building societies, the larger the mortgage the lower the interest rate. For example Citibank charges 15 per cent for loans of £5,000 up to £25,000, 14.75 per cent on £25,000 and over and 14.50 per cent on loans over £50,000. The same rates

apply to endowment mortgages. Security Pacific charges a hefty 17.25 per cent on loans up to £25,000, falling to 14 per cent on £25,000 plus, but have the attraction of offering 100 per cent on smaller mortgages. Repayments on their average £20,000 loan over 25 years are £291.53 a month.

Some banks have a minimum loan because they are not competitive on smaller advances and prefer to concentrate on the end of the market not covered by building societies. For anyone in search of a loan as high as £150,000 there is plenty of choice among banks and insurance companies. Some even say they have no ceiling on loans and will consider any request.

Some also offer top up funds whereby house buyers can get 100 per cent finance by adding to building society loans. Security Pacific usually lends about £10,000 of a £20,000 mortgage and markets a Blue Riband scheme for £20,000 mortgages where top up funds cost 14.875 per cent.

Insurance companies can work out cheaper, with loans costing as little as 13.25 per cent but not all offer 100 per cent funds. Guardian Royal Exchange, for example, will not actively market its mortgage service but offers it as an additional facility to policy

holders as a way of attracting more mainstream business. Providence Capital in conjunction with County Bank is a recent entrant to the market, offering loans up to £150,000 with a minimum £30,000 advance. Insurance companies tend to be more in line with building societies.

Most institutions also offer pension mortgages and

remortgages. One disadvantage is that bank rates can be more prone to change than, say, building societies because they fund their lending commitments from the money market where fluctuations can be extreme. Mortgage brokers, estate agents and insurance companies have details of most non-building society mortgages.

Honesty is the best insurance policy

David Worsfold takes another look at life insurance and what the industry is doing about its problem of over-optimism

SWEEPING changes in the way life insurance is sold are being introduced by the industry. The insurance companies are

As explained last week (Beware of the Bonus Bonanza), concern has been mounting about the way in which life insurance companies promise massive future returns on their policies. There are, for instance, companies promising to provide over the next 25 years returns that are twice what they managed in the past 25 years of historically very good investment conditions. Others in the insurance industry recognise that this is impossible, and have decided to try to do something about it.

One of the first changes is that many companies now separate the more stable reversionary bonuses from the transitory terminal bonuses in their quotations. By doing so, they are, in effect, saying that they are, in fact, looking at more closely the reversionary bonus. Some companies have also beefed up their cautionary note about possible future returns in order to give themselves a let out should investments that return take a nose dive and bonus rates be cut.

These minor changes, however, do little to tackle the real problem. Essentially, there are two routes to sidestepping the insurance industry's inflated projections of future investment returns.

A more likely course of action is to switch to a system of producing figures based on different yields over the period in question. For instance, instead of having a single figure at the bottom of the life insurance quotation, you would be given two or three figures based on the company's investment fund producing, say, a 7½ per cent, a 10 per cent and a 12½ per cent annual return over the period.

There are several advantages in such a system. First, you can see how the figures have been calculated and are not relying on an actuary's hidden assumptions. Secondly, you can then match these figures against the company's current performance and, in particular, see how that would affect the split between their reversionary and terminal bonuses, remembering that if times become lean in the investment world then terminal bonuses will be the first to suffer.

Thirdly, and most controversially in the view of the insurance industry, such a

system could expose the charges on a with-profits policy in much the same way as they are visible on a unit-linked contract.

At present, there is no way of telling what charges you are paying on a traditional with-profits policy. By switching to a system of projections based on different yields, it will become obvious just how much of your money goes in charges. This already happens with unit-linked insurance policies.

There is, of course, a third solution to be honest. So many people in the insurance industry are saying that the present rates of return cannot be sustained for any length of time that it should be possible for them to put their—or rather your—money where their mouths are and say "this is what we reasonably expect to earn in the next ten years." If it is less than what is being earned at the moment then they should explain why. And to be fair, one or two companies, such as Norwich Union, are already doing this.

YOUR SAVINGS

	% Interest	% gross	Tax	£ 4 min
BANKS				
Regular savings	7.7-25	10.1-12	paid	10/month
Regular savings	8.2-9.1	10.3-11.3	paid	2,500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100+
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	10
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	200/500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000
TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK				
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	10
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	200/500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000
NATIONAL SAVINGS				
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	10
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	200/500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000
INDEX-LINKED CERTIFICATES				
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	10
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	200/500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000
YEARLY PLAN				
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	10
Regular savings	8.5-9	11.7-12	paid	200/500
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	100
High interest	9.2-9.5	11.2-11.5	paid	2,000

DO YOU QUALIFY?

Up to £50,000 free

EXTRA PROTECTION FOR YOUR FAMILY

At last — a vigorous plan specially designed to give free extra cover to healthy people.

HERE'S HOW YOU BENEFIT

How quickly you can get immediate cover of up to £42,000 — for just pennies a day (see table below). So you get astonishingly high protection for very little cost.

But that's just the start: because your protection actually GROWS each year, until it DOUBLES by the fifth year!

That means extra peace of mind for you and your family.

HOW CAN I QUALIFY?

To offer such high cover for such low cost, we have to set strict entry qualifications. If you can answer 'Yes' to the first five questions opposite and you are between 18 and 55 and your height and weight are satisfactory, you can get MICH BETTER today. This is an opportunity you shouldn't miss.

Great as a first policy

Dynamic Cover Plan is low cost. It brings extra high cover: it can keep pace with your changing needs — and allow for the increasing cost of living.

Great as a top-up policy

If you already have ordinary life insurance, the rising cost of living can soon leave you under-insured.

Dynamic Cover Plan will keep your family protected, because it keeps on growing.

Great for women

Women can get even higher benefits than men of the same age — see the table.

Great for your pocket

As little as 17p a day can give you all this peace of mind. Check the questions opposite to see if you qualify — and APPLY NOW!

It's easy to apply

Just choose the initial amount you wish to pay each month, then complete the simple application form. Please answer all the

questions and sign the declaration. Then post your application and cheque to: THE GUARDIAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO. LTD., 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

No stamp needed. Please send your policy to: THE GUARDIAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO. LTD., 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

On acceptance, your policy will be posted to you along with a book Direct Cover Extra, which is needed for your future monthly payments. You then have 15 days to examine your policy. If you are in any way dissatisfied, simply return your policy to GLE. It will be cancelled without question and any payment will be refunded immediately. That's the Guardian money-back guarantee.

Apply today! The sooner you start — the sooner your family is protected.

GLE is one of the largest insurance groups in the UK with worldwide assets exceeding £10,000,000,000. Over 100 years of experience. We are a member of the Lloyds market and are licensed by the Insurance Commission in England.

Dynamic Cover Plan is underwritten by Guardian Assurance plc, a wholly owned subsidiary of GLE and the specialist life insurance company within the group.

Guardian Assurance plc is a member of the Guardian Group of companies.

Guardian Assurance plc is registered in England. Registered Office: Royal Exchange, London EC3N 3LS.

Answer these six questions to see if you qualify

The questions must be answered fully and to the best of your knowledge and belief. If you need to give further details, please use a separate sheet of paper which you should also sign and date. Please be as specific as possible to save us time when we refer back to you.

In answering questions (a) and (b) you can ignore common colds, influenza, minor injuries, negative mass X-ray, uncomplicated pregnancy and childbirth (except Caesarean Section).

Please answer these questions truthfully:

(a) Have you within the last five years had or awaiting any medical or surgical investigation or treatment for any disease or serious injury? YES ☐ NO ☐

(b) Are you taking any medicine or drug or are you under any form of medical supervision, care, treatment or special diet? YES ☐ NO ☐

(c) Do you participate in any sport or pastime generally considered to be dangerous, such as competitive motor sports, mountaineering, aviation (other than as a fare-paying passenger) or underwater activities? YES ☐ NO ☐

(d) Have you smoked any cigarettes within the last 12 months? YES ☐ NO ☐

(e) Have you any intention of smoking cigarettes in the future? YES ☐ NO ☐

(f) What are your height and weight? Height: _____ cm Weight: _____ kg

Guardian reserves the right to call for a medical examination at its expense.

Your Doctor's Name: _____ Address: _____

How long has the Doctor known you? _____ years? If less than six months, please provide the name and address of your previous Doctor.

DYNAMIC COVER PLAN FREE 15-DAY EXAMINATION APPLICATION FORM NO SALESMAN WILL CALL

The GLE (LIFE) CO. LTD., PRESTON, BATHAM ROAD, LYTHAM ST. ANNES, LANCASHIRE PR10 4BL. No stamp needed. Please tick your choice of initial monthly payment.

I enclose my cheque for £60.00 £90.00 £120.00 £150.00

This is the best Premium (which increases each year by 10p on the point of the initial amount)

This is the best Premium (which increases each year by 10p on the point of the initial amount)

This is the best Premium (which increases each year by 10p on the point of the initial amount)

This is the best Premium (which increases each year by 10p on the point of the initial amount)

I enclose a cheque made payable to Guardian Assurance plc for my first month's payment, as indicated above.

Signature (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____ Date _____

Full name(s) _____ Address _____

Postcode _____

Date of birth _____

Occupation _____

Declaration to be signed by the person whose life is to be insured. I declare that to the best of my knowledge all the above statements are true and complete in every particular and together with the documents which in the event of my being medically examined will be made by the Medical Examiner shall be the basis of the contract between me and Guardian Assurance plc. I consent to Guardian seeking medical information from my doctor who at any time has obtained my consent. Any statement which affects my physical or mental health or my ability to work or my ability to undertake the giving of such information.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send a second application form for my spouse.

My Broker's/Agent's Name is: _____

Guardian Assurance plc. Registered Office: Royal Exchange, London EC3N 3LS. Registered in England No. 26021. Please cut along dotted line.

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صبرنا من الازل

Blooming cold in apple blossom time



Derek Senior reports on new research which suggests the bitter springtime may have done more good than harm in the orchard. Drawing by Sharon Finmark.

NEVER have I seen such a plethora of blossom as smothered my apple trees in May. Such varieties as Lane's Prince Albert, Ellison's Orange, and Laxton's Epicure and Superb were carrying up to 25 flowers to a cluster—and the clusters were often only three or four inches apart. If only one in ten of the blossoms developed fruit I should have a record crop.

But will they? All through March, when the buds were forming, we had between eight and twelve degrees of frost (F) at least one night in every week, and after a brief mild spell we got similar night temperatures throughout the second half of April, when the opening blossom on my pear and early apple trees was reaching its most vulnerable stage.

From the beginning of May the night temperature stayed a few degrees above freezing point. So the blossom on my pear and early apple trees escaped being killed by frost, but their fertilisation could still have been inhibited by

the chilling effect of east winds on pollen tube growth. Time will tell. A few pear fruitlets are swelling, which encourages hopes—hopes that will be confirmed if they remain firmly attached when they reach the downward-turning stage. But even more encouraging is the report of a recent Members' Day at the East Malling Research Station, which revealed the findings of an inquiry into the effect of spring temperatures on Cox yields.

In this experiment, warm and cool springs were simulated by covering batches of potted Cox trees on M9 rootstocks, at night only, with mobile glasshouses kept at controlled temperatures to the elements by night as well as by day.

The trees warmed at night experienced more than twice as many dry-degrees above 40 deg F during the period February to April as those cooled at night and reached the bud burst, first flower, and full bloom stages about a month earlier. But their flowers

were of poorer quality, set less than a third as many fruitlets (though all were hand-pollinated), and were capable of being fertilised on only half as many days. Moreover, at the green cluster stage, 30 per cent of the buds on the trees warmed at night were killed by only 5 deg F of frost, compared with less than 15 per cent on both the unwarmed trees and those cooled at night.

It was also found that the warm spring treatment lengthened the period between bud burst and green cluster, causing the young leaves to use up more stored carbohydrates, with the result that the flowers weighed less and contained less sugar but more water. Growers were advised to counter these effects in warm springs by tying bunches of pollinator blossom (such as James Grieve) to Cox trees as soon as their blossom opens, and to protect the watery spur leaves against mildew and scab with fungicides.

All this indicates that, contrary to one's natural expectations, the abnormal coldness of all but a week or two of this year's spring is likely to have caused an abnormally high proportion of its abnormally abundant apple blossoms to set fruit—very much more fruit, in fact, than the trees can be expected to carry to maturity.

Fortunately the trees know this as well as I do, and will shed most of the set fruitlets when they reach about marble size in what is known as the "June drop"—which in this late season may well be delayed until early July. Wait

till this is over before you start the further hand-thinning that is likely to be needed if you want fruits of marketable size; otherwise you may find that the fruitlets you decided to retain are among those the tree has decided to discard.

Among other reports of interest to amateur growers as well as commercial growers at the East Malling Members' Day was one on the importance of planting well feathered maiden trees (and tying the feathery—lateral shoots—down) in order to get a good crop in the year after planting. Maiden Cox trees on M9, with an average of ten feathers per tree, planted in

the spring of 1983, yielded 18 tonnes per hectare in 1984. Maiden Cox trees on the more dwarfing M27 averaged only three feathers per tree, and yielded only 4.7 tonnes, with less than half as many fruits in the Class 1 grade.

East Malling also reported "outstandingly good results" from the use of the growth retardant Cultar (formerly PP333) in controlling the vigour and increasing the fruitfulness of Bramley's everybody's favourite cooking apple, but in its untreated form too exuberant a tree for the small garden.

Visitors to the Chelsea Flower Show might have expected to find such results

of East Malling researches displayed and explained as usual in the show's scientific section, but this most valuable channel for communicating to amateur gardeners the relevant spin-offs from researches undertaken for the benefit of commercial growers has this year been blocked—apparently by the severe and continuing reductions in financial support from the Government.

But at least East Malling is still able to carry on much of its work and to report its results to members of the East Malling Research Association—whose subscriptions, incidentally, funded the work of the student who showed

them, at the recent Members' Day, how the gibberellin growth hormones in Regulax could be used to prevent the russetting that tends to disfigure (and devalue) the fruits of Cox, Discovery, and Golden Delicious. Other research institutions have been less fortunate: those concerned with weed control and soil structure have had to close down.

shaded spot outside will work wonders. Fuschias, pelargoniums, ivies, and many more will benefit if a suitable outdoor spot can be found.

But that doesn't mean we can forget about them. However wet our summer weather seems to us, these pot plants will still need frequent watering and feeding where appropriate, too.

Odd jobbing

by Hilary Applegate

IF you have yet to purchase your tomato plants, take a little trouble to find varieties with good flavour. For my money, Money-maker, Allcote, Ailsa Craig and Shirley, all common cultivars, have little to commend them. But when did you last buy a pound of tomatoes as tasty as those borne by Gardener's Delight and Sweet 100?

In any case, the plants purchased should be sturdy, and deep green, with no yellow flecking on the foliage, and no resident whitefly, aphids, or red spider mite. Bedding plants can also be bought now. They should be just about to flower but not pot-bound, and do inquire whether or not they have been hardened off, so that you can take any necessary action yourself.

Over most of Britain the risk of frost is receding and it is worth considering which houseplants will benefit from a summer sojourn outdoors. My sulking maidenhair fern, for instance, resents its centrally heated winter home, yet a few weeks in a lightly

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Hilary Sesta reports on the booming market in retirement homes and sheltered housing.

How to avoid the property trap

HALF the people of pensionable age are now owner-occupiers, an increasing number of whom are selling their properties and buying retirement homes and sheltered housing. Dr Stephen Baker's research at the University of Surrey shows that 300,000 units of sheltered housing are required, increasing by 15,000 annually. The rental sector cannot cope with the demand. The building of sheltered accommodation for sale is a much needed and welcome addition to the provision of housing for the elderly; but it has brought in its wake some confusion for both buyer and seller, and some disagreement.

The John Laing development at Wansford is managed by Guardian Housing Association, but is a subsidiary of Anchor Housing. The communal room, near the entrance to the flats, is discreetly watched over by the warden, Jean Elliott, who is obviously well liked by the residents. It is always occupied at tea time, Mrs Lil

Bright, a newly retired resident, says: "Some of them are a bit standoffish at first, but I call out 'how about a cuppa?' and they soon become regulars." She and her husband Frank sold a large house in the same road, and bought a flat simultaneously with a neighbour, Mrs Dorothy Adams. Mrs Adams says: "We are lucky to remain in the same community, it made the change easier."

But not every scheme works so well. There's one instance of leaseholders in litigation with another firm. Promised 24-hour warden service, they found that there was no resident warden, and the "medical centre" turned out to be a small room with no waiting area and minimal facilities. The site was poorly maintained and the garden neglected. They could not find out who was responsible for the maintenance or whom to complain to.

Apart from which, the service charge rose alarmingly, the warden, Jean Elliott, who is obviously well liked by the residents. It is always occupied at tea time, Mrs Lil

no share in the profit from the resale. They could neither afford to stay or buy elsewhere.

Fortunately, this would appear to be an isolated case, but there are worries that with this burgeoning market, the standards will drop. Before buying, it is essential to know who will be managing the scheme. Many developers like John Laing, Wimpey and Barrett turn over the management of their schemes to housing associations using experience learned from the rental sector, or to a specialist organisation like Retirement Care Ltd, whose director, Peter Morgan, came from the Housing Association. The National Federation of Housing Associations has drawn up a model lease which is used by the Leasehold Scheme for the Elderly. Their members are urged to use this lease, and any amendments to it have to be approved. Together with others, they are also working on a code of practice, and a way of monitoring all schemes through planning to management. It is vital to employ a solicitor to look at any lease before making the purchase. Of particular concern are the buy-back clauses, and certain restrictions. Permission may have to be sought in order to keep a pet, or lengthy visits from rascally grandchildren may be forbidden. On tenure, the NFHA lease says that the lease shall be terminated if the tenant shall, in the judgment of the landlord, become incapable of managing his own affairs. "The House Building Federation says: 'The recommendation of several experts such as the resident's GP, a psychiatrist, social worker and physician should be considered as a prerequisite of giving notice.'"

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CONCERTS London

7 10-8 25 am Open University. 8 30 The Saturday Picture Show.

10 40 GRANDSTAND. Including: cricket - England v Australia from Edgbaston (10 45); 1 40; news (1 0); gymnastics - Men's European Championships from Oslo (1 00); Rugby Union - NZ v England from Christchurch, highlights (1 00); show jumping from Hickstead (4 30); final score (4 55).

5 5 NEWS; weather news; sport; regional news magazine.

5 20 THE NEW ADVENTURES OF WONDER WOMAN: The Man Who Made Volcanoes. Lynda Carter as the under-dressed avenger, erupting into action to save world peace in the latest old comic strip adventure. Ceefax sub-titles.

6 10 THE KEITH HARRIS SHOW. More ventriloquist vulgarity with Keith and his comic characters, joined this week by Alvin Stardust, Bernie Clifton.

6 45 BRANNIGAN. Tall-on-the-tube Chicago cop John Wayne comes to London seeking elusive US villain, getting up the nose of his Scotland Yard counterpart Richard Attenborough. In Douglas Hickox's British-made thriller, dating from 1975. Ceefax sub-titles.

8 30 THE KENNY EVERETT TELEVISION SHOW. The usual lunacy, with Sheila Steafel, Daniel Peacock, Willie Rushton and pop star David Cassidy participating.

9 0 DYNASTY: Kristina. A krytical time for Krystle and Blake and all of us who've been loyally making with the matinee jackets. But take comfort, gentle viewer, from the news that a small, insignificant stranger is to make a first appearance - and this time it's probably not Alexis's long-lost chihuahua... Ceefax sub-titles.

9 45 NEWS; sport; weather.

10 50 LUCKY MAN. Lindsay Anderson's extraordinary, portentous allegory for the 1970s, an elegy too for sixties radicalism as symbolised by the earlier If, with Malcolm McDowell as the latter-day capitalist Christian embarking on an odyssey through a Britain of corrupt bourgeoisie, self-seeking trends and new militarism. With superb support from the likes of Ralph Richardson, Rachel Roberts, Arthur Lowe, Helen Mirren and Alan Price - who also wrote the now-classic score. 12 35 Weather; close.

6 25 am Open University.

2 10 TAKE ME HIGH. Cliff Richard leads this 1973 musical directed by David Askey, recently of Three Up, Two Down, as rising young bankers discover a new interest in life when he's exiled to Birmingham. With George Cole, Debbie Watling, Hugh Griffith.

4 40 INTERNATIONAL CRICKET: England v Australia. Peter West with further coverage (see also Grandstand) of the 55-overs Test match at Edgbaston.

7 30 NEWS; sport; weather.

7 45 ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION. James Ballin previews the 217th such display of previously-unhung works from Burlington House, inviting guest critics to select their favourites from the 2,000 or so on show.

8 30 ON THE TOWN. Made in 1949 and tuneful as ever, Leonard Bernstein's classic MGM musical stars director Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Minahan as the three sailors taking in New York, New York on a one-day pass.

10 5 SATURDAY REVIEW. Russell Davies opens a new run of the arts and media magazine, with studio guests Henry Porter, Hermione Lee and Bruce McLean joining him to discuss the National Theatre production of Travels, David Thompson's book Suspects, and the Francis Bacon exhibition at the Tate. Plus Moira Shearer's view of dance on film, and a look at the various adaptations of Hitchcock's Guide To The Galaxy, with author Douglas Adams interviewed by Minette Martin.

11 5 INTERNATIONAL CRICKET: England v Australia. Highlights of today's one-day match at Edgbaston.

11 55 MEN'S EUROPEAN GYMNASTICS. Action from today's all-round competition in Oslo.

12 30 Close.

6 15 am Good Morning Britain. 8 30 The Wide Awake Club. 9 25 LWT Information. 9 30 Matt and Jenny on the Wilderness Trail. 10 0 No. 72. 11 20 The Champions.

12 25 WORLD OF SPORT. Including: ice hockey - Stanley Cup and Basketball - NBA finals from North America (12 20); news; Aussie pools check (12 45); motor racing - Indianapolis 500 (12 55); racing from Newmarket and Thirsk (1 20); speedway - World Pairs Championship (1 25); 2 55; news (2 50); wrestling (4 0); results (4 45).

5 5 NEWS; weather.

5 10 HAPPY DAYS: Vocational Education with Henry Winkler as Fonzie.

5 30 CONNECTIONS. Sue Robbie with the teenagers' quiz.

6 0 THE SATURDAY 6 O'CLOCK SHOW. Michael Aspel and the team celebrate the 50th anniversary of the driving test.

6 50 THE COMEDIANS. Return of Granada's stand-up comedy showcase, featuring familiar "finds" like Carson, Manning, Boardman, plus untalented talent.

7 20 THE PRICE IS RIGHT.

8 15 HUNTER: Avenging Angel. Oracle sub-titles.

9 15 NEWS; sport; weather.

9 30 TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED. Derek Jacobi plays the tattooed Paris tramp in re-run dramatisation of one of Ronald Dahl's most chilling and sinister tales. Oracle sub-titles. London news headlines.

10 0 MARATHON MAN. Just when you'd screwed up the courage to go to the dentist next week... Dustin Hoffman is the innocent young distance runner plunged into a world of espionage, Nazi criminals and stolen gems through his brother the agent (Olivier Schickel) with Laurence Olivier terrifying as the arch-villain with the drill, in John Schlesinger's 1976 version of William Goldman's ultra-clever thriller, spoiled by gratuitous violence.

12 15 MAGNUM: Distant Relative. 1 5 BIZARRE. John Byner hosts the coherent yet awe-inspiring show.

1 30 NIGHT THOUGHTS with the Bishop of Durham. Closedown.

1 0 pm Chips' Comic. 2 25 Print It Yourself. 1 35 Film: My Lucky Star. 1938 starring... with Santa Henna. 2 55 Film: Holy Matrimony. 1943 drama with Gracie Fields. 5 5 Brookside.

6 0 THE MAX HEADROOM SHOW.

6 30 NO PROBLEM! Last episode of the black comedy, with Angel double-booked for her birthday, and reggae band Aswad making a guest appearance. News summary; weather.

7 0 SEVEN DAYS. Should the Brussels match have been played? Were the striking miners guilty of murder? Plus a report on a black Pentecostal church in London.

7 30 LAKEVIEW ROCK. Ow's Better Than Nowt In A Crisis. The dizzy-making series concludes with an attempt by top clubbers Peter Wallace and Dave Armstrong to scale the sheer face of the Great Gable by a new and untold route.

8 15 WINSTON CHURCHILL: THE WEATHERS YEARS. What Price Churchill? Final episode of the repeated recent-history drama, with Churchill (Robert Hardy) once more a voice in the wilderness after Chamberlain's promise of peace, but due to come into his own again as war looms and Chamberlain dithers.

9 15 TO BE A YELLOWBELL...? Down To Earth. The People to People series on Lincolnshire farm-workers follows four of them - including Austin Lagging, who composed and sings most of the music - through a year in their lives, looking at the nature of their work, at their social activities and union involvement.

10 0 OCTOPUS - POWER OF THE MAFIA. 2 Michele Placido leads the second instalment of the sub-titled Italian drama as the urban cop taking on the might of the Mafia.

11 10 THE LATE CLIVE JAMES. With guests Mel Smith and Quentin Crisp.

11 35 NAKED CITY: Strike A Statue. George C. Scott guests in the latest vintage crime thriller as one Kermit Garrison - a sculptor, not a Muppet.

12 50 THE PAUL ROGAN SHOW. More Antipodean humour with the Aussie comic. 1 20 Close.

Radio 1

6 50 am Graham Hamerman. 6 55 Peter Dinklage. 7 0 News. 7 15 On Your Farm. 7 30 On Your Farm. 7 45 On Your Farm. 8 0 News. 8 15 On Your Farm. 8 30 On Your Farm. 8 45 On Your Farm. 9 0 News. 9 15 On Your Farm. 9 30 On Your Farm. 9 45 On Your Farm. 10 0 News. 10 15 On Your Farm. 10 30 On Your Farm. 10 45 On Your Farm. 11 0 News. 11 15 On Your Farm. 11 30 On Your Farm. 11 45 On Your Farm. 12 0 News. 12 15 On Your Farm. 12 30 On Your Farm. 12 45 On Your Farm. 1 0 News. 1 15 On Your Farm. 1 30 On Your Farm. 1 45 On Your Farm. 2 0 News. 2 15 On Your Farm. 2 30 On Your Farm. 2 45 On Your Farm. 3 0 News. 3 15 On Your Farm. 3 30 On Your Farm. 3 45 On Your Farm. 4 0 News. 4 15 On Your Farm. 4 30 On Your Farm. 4 45 On Your Farm. 5 0 News. 5 15 On Your Farm. 5 30 On Your Farm. 5 45 On Your Farm. 6 0 News. 6 15 On Your Farm. 6 30 On Your Farm. 6 45 On Your Farm. 7 0 News. 7 15 On Your Farm. 7 30 On Your Farm. 7 45 On Your Farm. 8 0 News. 8 15 On Your Farm. 8 30 On Your Farm. 8 45 On Your Farm. 9 0 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